THE NEW REPUBLIC

The Lessons

At the time when, without any previous experience, Mr. Kennedy took up the reins of government, some of us recalled the young Theodore Roosevelt and the young Churchill. Recalling them, we expected that he would make some mistakes that a timorous or furtive character would not make. In the decision to support a military invasion of Cuba, he proceeded within three months to fulfill this expectation in a measure that was more than generous. Now that this historic blunder is behind us, our concern must be to redeem it by making sure that its lesson is learned.

Louis J. Halle

June 5, 1961, 25 cen

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T.R.B. *from Washington*

Dandy, Eh?

★ It is noon and the great hall of the House of Representatives fills rapidly for the joint session to hear Kennedy. What scenes it has witnessed! The ceiling propped with girders in the war; FDR brought in smiling, first tottering on steel braces, later in a wheel chair; Ike uttering his hopeful platitudes; now a younger man. Decorations have changed vastly, dark-brown panelling now and indirect lighting, also a new clock which unfortunately for this reporter cuts off the view of the President down below.

Senators are announced first, then ambassadors – the latter swelled to an enormous number. A whole wedge of seats is allocated to them; I count 16 Negroes (one in blue robe) plus I don't know how many lighter skinned Africans. In 40 years the page boys in white shirts have changed from knickers to long pants, and air-conditioning has been introduced. Otherwise, it's much the same.

The young, gallant-looking President comes down the aisle, takes his place, gets warm applause, "I believe we should go to the moon," he says. Imagine that 40 years ago! Kennedy is giving the country direction, participation, a goal. He is saying finally now what should have been said in 1957 after Sputnik. Applause comes more and more frequently – twice for his first eight pages, 16 times for the last three. This is what a President should do, taking the public into his confidence, educating it, setting the tone. This week he is off to see President de Gaulle and Premier Khrushchev.

In his speech Kennedy feelingly interpolated that "4000 civilian officials" in Vietnam had been assassinated by guerrillas in the past 12 months alone. He said he was directing the Defense Secretary to orient existing forces for "paramilitary operations." He denounced Soviet undercover warfare, "guerrillas striking by night, assassins striking alone, subversives and saboteurs and insurrectionists." And then in effect he said that we must do the same thing.

Paramilitary warfare is *dirty* warfare. Should the US go in for it? It is a very important issue indeed. It is a temptation to say "get tough," let's murder and bomb and corrupt and terrify too, or better, let our stooges do it, paid by the CIA! Dandy, eh? But aside from the moral aspect, is the US really cut out for that kind of thing?

It means lying to the public. When our agents get caught our government disowns them. It means undercutting democracy. A few men launch secret operations (that might mean war) and the voters have no say and no knowledge. It violates treaty obligations of the United States.

We have no right to interfere in another country. Always before America has stood for world order under law and it has been our greatest weapon. Above all, these "dirty" operations create a crisis of credibility; they make the word of the US suspect – just as the French believed rumors after the Cuban fiasco that the CIA was backing the Algerian generals.

Is paramilitary warfare worth the price? Again and again Kennedy comes back to it; American policy is being directed that way; it is being accepted almost without debate. We haven't heard a single TV or radio debate on it or seen it much discussed in newspapers. Actually few issues more deserve debate. It is a trap, we think, in which the United States might well lose its good name.

The GOP Record

★ Dispassionate experts hired by the Republicans after the 1960 defeat told them they must win more of the big cities. But how can Republicans do this and vote as they do? Kennedy has wooed and won enough Southerners to shrink the GOP-Dixie coalition, and GOP liberal Congressmen bolt party leaders to support his social reform program. Where does that leave the Dirksen-Halleck-Goldwater coalition? Take school aid! For a dozen years the Old Guard has fought it. First it used the parochial school side-issue, then segregation. Eisenhower vacillated. Now it looks as though Kennedy may win a tremendous victory for his $2.4 billion measure. But what is the GOP record? In the Senate, leaders who acknowledged they intended to vote against the final bill punctually produced segregation and church amendments again. In the House a typical committee vote showed all 12 Republicans voting "No" when the Education Committee reported out the bill 18 to 13. When the Senate approved the bill last week 49 to 34 Republicans voted against it, 22 to 8.

Notes

★ The United Presbyterian Church warned its 9,000 congregations against the doctored film *Operation Abolition* unless accompanied by adequate exposition of the other side; the film is still being shown on military posts, however. . . . FCC chairman Minow got 3,000 letters, only 50 unfavorable, after his scorching attack on TV programs; the powerful TV industry promptly pulled strings in Congress to kill the reorganization plan that would have increased Minow's authority. . . . *Toledo Blade* reporter Ray Oviatt watched TV for 19 hours and finally staggered away at 1 a.m. with aching posterior, eyes blurred by gunshot killings and three hours of cumulative commercials and the verdict "massive boredom" Minow suggested. . . . NYStock Exchange President Funston has twice warned against speculation; TRB's clouded crystal ball says the market's way too high and will probably go hither – before the bottom falls out. . . . The paradox of race relations in the United States, we believe, is that as they get better they are also apt to get worse. The Negroes are in an accelerating social revolution and it is the story of revolutions that the crises and violence come not when things are at their low point but as they really begin to improve.

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New Wine, Old Bottles

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What the President asked of Congress in his message last week can be quickly summarized: $250 million more for foreign aid – to be spent at the President's discretion; $2.4 million more for the US Information Agency – for radio and TV in Latin America and Southeast Asia; $285 million more in military aid – with the promise that it will be "prudently and wisely spent;" $100 million more to modernize the Army; $60 million more for the Marine Corps; $531 million to get us started toward the moon; $23 million for the Rover nuclear rocket; and $125 million to develop communications and weather satellite systems. The most important of these requests, and the one that will be most strongly resisted by the Congress, is for foreign aid funds. The President calls special attention to this when he says that the total amount ($2.65 billion) "is both minimal and crucial," and that he cannot see "how anyone who is concerned about the growing threats to freedom around the world – and who is asking what more we can do – can weaken or oppose the single most important program available for building the frontiers of freedom."

There are hints in this message that the President is cautiously trying to disengage from some of the obsolete rhetoric of the Cold War. He emphasizes for example the necessary connection between security, social reform and economic development; he acknowledges that "military pacts cannot help nations whose social injustice and economic chaos invite insurgency and penetration and subversion." He may also be beginning to prepare the public for the accommodations among the Great Powers that will come in the Sixties by saying that "experience has taught us that no nation has the power or the wisdom to solve all the problems of the world or manage all its revolutionary tides – that extending our commitments does not always increase our security . . . and that no two nations or situations are exactly alike." That places our national power and mission in perspective.

Nevertheless, Mr. Kennedy cannot free himself from old clichés, perhaps because he thinks they are needed to disarm critics who at the first whisper of negotiation cry "appeasement." Such men would be unhappy and perhaps dangerous were they to start suspecting that the old words do not describe the new order among nations. So it must be said for them that Asia, Latin America, Africa and the Middle East are "the great battleground for the defense and expansion of freedom today." In these terms we justify our concern for others, though there is little freedom to be defended in a great many countries in these

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areas, unless freedom is twisted to mean merely the absence of Communist rule. Most governments in the developing countries are preoccupied with the struggle to put together, or hold together, a variety of unstable new political entities which are "national" only in the narrowest, juridic sense. The freedom of which the President speaks is really the national freedom of sovereign states in an open, international society. And this freedom, for several decades, may in many cases be incompatible with personal freedoms as we know them. The American Bill of Rights is as relevant to most "emerging nations" as a two-car garage. And economic freedom in the sense of uninhibited private enterprise is less relevant to their needs, desires or capacities.

The point being made is not that Presidential addresses must exhibit complete candor. But it should be noted that our statements about "the world struggle" need revision in the interest of plausibility. If we were to speak more accurately, and therefore more persuasively, we might be spared some of the disappointments and frustrations that flow from self-deception. Nor is it beyond possibility that the Congress could get used to the idea that the United States has no monopoly on a vision of perfection or the practice of charity. The public too could be led to understand that the "free world" is a many-colored and spotty thing, that the choices available to most people in most "free" nations are very limited, and that the "slave world" is neither one world nor wholly enslaved. The Russians are not a theory, they are many people with many problems. The same is true of the Communist Chinese. It is a mark of maturity to think less about saving the world and more about how to live in and with it. And living with it means living with our adversary in Cuba, as well as with such "free" nations as Haiti – against which no CIA-supported invasion has been rumored.

The Game Two Play

The President is correct when he says that the Communists "send arms, agitators, aid, technicians and propaganda to every troubled area." But it is only part of the truth. For this is what the United States has been doing since the start of the Cold War. There are differences of course – but they are not altogether vice as against virtue. Soviet propaganda has been effective in many places where ours has not, because the Communists have goaded disaffected groups to rebel against their exploiters rather than defend them. And there is another difference. The Soviet Union has rarely come close to matching us in the amount of guns, technicians or aid it has distributed abroad: Alongside the Soviet airlift of weapons to Laos, one must place massive US military aid and technicians distributed wholesale, and a network of military bases abroad some of which are quite close to the Soviets. Likewise, though the Russians do "possess a powerful intercontinental striking force," unless we have been misinformed, ours is as powerful. While the Russians do have "large forces for conventional war," the combined NATO conventional forces are as great, if not as united. And if the Russians have had "long experience in the techniques of violence and subversion," it is only because they got into the game earlier. The whole tenor of the President's speech is that we must catch up with them in this area, too. The Communists no doubt "prey on unstable or unpopular governments," but such governments are bound to be preyed on.

None of this is said with the intent to scold, for if some of the President's lyrics are stale, the tune is still fresh. And one knows that such public addresses, particularly one delivered days before a first meeting with Mr. Khrushchev, are phrased with more than one audience in mind. There will be other speeches. In one of them there may be no reference to the "battle for men's minds." And on some far-distant day a speechwriter may startle the world by committing this government to leaving other men's minds alone.

Sub-Minimum Wages

The new and enlarged federal minimum-wage coverage will mean little to millions of Americans whose salaries are not within the purview of Congress, since they are employed in intra-state industry. According to Senator Prouty of Vermont during the Senate debate, 21 states provide no wage floor whatsoever – 23 years after the adoption of the first federal act. Nor are these states all of the type one might think. They include Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma and West Virginia.

There are other surprises. No state has blanket, over-all minimum-wage guarantees. Some cover only a few industries. In 14 states, only women and children are covered. In Arkansas a minimum-wage act of 1915 solemnly forbids paying less than 16 cents an hour, or $1.25 a day. In Arizona, the workers in three industries only, are protected by a floor of 47 to 55 cents an hour, or $18.72 to $21.60 weekly. Kentucky protects laundry workers from being paid less than 20 to 28 cents an hour; for others the minimum is 40 to 50 cents. South Dakota stipulates that workers in most industries shall not be paid less than 22 to 28 cents an hour, or $12 to $15 on the weekly scale. Minnesota protects family standards of living beginning at $11 to $15 weekly. Some states do meet the old federal minimum of $1 or even more, but they are few. And none compares to Alaska, which has a minimum for "most industries" of $1.50 an hour.

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Freedom Riders

Nothing could be less free than the successful Freedom Ride from Montgomery to Jackson. It was an armed military convoy, not free to stop even for a visit to a rest room. The established law of the United States is that anyone may make such an integrated trip at will. May, but not can. For in order to be an effective, stable rule of behavior, the law in our system must be accepted; grudgingly sometimes but accepted. Law enforcement is a crisis of the system, not its norm, and it serves to demonstrate the frailty of the law more than its strength. No one can predict, therefore, that convoyed Freedom Rides will help to establish more firmly the rule of integration in Alabama and Mississippi. On the contrary, and quite aside from the President's absence from Washington, one may agree that Attorney General Kennedy's recommendation to the Freedom Riders to pause and cool off was good advice. And surely his actions over the past week have earned him the moral position to give the advice.

But the Freedom Rides are not going to stop. They are, of course, no sort of provocation. They are perfectly lawful conduct, and it is the duty of all authorities, state and federal, to protect them. Beyond that, they are the marvelously brave, marvelously disciplined vanguard of a peaceful revolution that will not be denied. As Sir Isaiah Berlin has simply said, "Historical movements exist, and we must be allowed to call them so." And such movements sometimes suspend the conventional wisdom, or coexist paradoxically with it. The sit-ins, and now the Freedom Rides, have their own inner logic, their own momentum. The call comes from elsewhere than the councils of prudence. Western civilization is no stranger to such acts of moral defiance. They constitute some of its glories.

It is to be remembered too that both the leadership and the membership of Negro passive resistance are educated, responsible, steady elements in the community. The historic movement that has propelled them to its head has churned up also less edifying elements – the Negro nationalists, for example. Who knows but what attention to councils of prudence by the present Negro leadership might not result in less responsible leaders tomorrow than a Martin Luther King.

The law is clear, as is the imperative obligation to prevent mob violence. The 27 Riders who reached Jackson were arrested for attempting to enter the white rest room and restaurant. They were constitutionally entitled to do so, and the arrests were unlawful. Their release will be readily obtained by federal court action, provided they are willing to go to court. Moreover, extending action already taken in Alabama, the Attorney General may well obtain injunctions forbidding local authorities to interfere in this fashion with the enjoyment of constitutional rights. Such action may induce some compliance, but all it can ensure with absolute certainty is, again, litigation. It is a long hard road, as Attorney General Robert Kennedy said last week, and there's no turning back.

Stars Fell on Alabama

Republican Predicament

It does not take much reading between the lines of the report on the American electorate made public by University of Michigan political scientists to draw some conclusions about the hardships which face the Republicans in trying to recapture the White House in 1964 or, for that matter, control of Congress at any time. The central fact is that the Democratic Party has held the affection of a strong majority of the nation's voters for many years and is not likely to lose it in the near future, however poorly the party may behave in office.

In 1952 the gnawing distress of the Korean War, the allegations of corruption in the Truman Administration and the candidacy, on the Republican ticket, of a popular hero who had made his reputation under other banners than that of the Republican Party, struck sufficient resonance to put a Republican in the White House. The public was eager to rap Democratic knuckles, but it had

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no intention of repudiating the party. The Michigan surveys show that there was no weakening of the Democratic majority even momentarily. Furthermore, the analysts read history to say that only overpowering national catastrophe has the force to alter this allegiance.

Short of a national catastrophe, the GOP can only hope to capture an occasional Presidential election either through choice of a spectacular candidate not too closely associated with the party, or through the accumulation of some truly major grievances against the Democrats.

The predicament is particularly acute for Mr. Nixon. The Michigan study of Mr. Stevenson's return match in 1956 showed some decline in attractiveness of his image in the public eye simply because he had lost in 1952. There has been some belief that Mr. Nixon, by moving ahead of most Republican tickets and running a very close race showed some capacity to win Democratic votes. The thrust of the Michigan study suggests, however, that most of these "surplus" Nixon votes represented less an attraction to Nixon than a reaction against Kennedy's Catholicism. And, say the investigators, with the religious precedent broken, there is no reason to expect anti-Catholicism to register as strongly in the future.

The final irony from Mr. Nixon's point of view is that his primary asset in 1960 was his "experience" relative to that of Kennedy. In 1964, if Kennedy runs again, it is hard to imagine a currency which could suffer a more galloping deflation.

Linus Pauling

As foreshadowed in Professor Harry Kalven's recent analysis (in the *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists*) of the Linus Pauling testimony before the Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee on Pauling's petition for a nuclear test ban, the Subcommittee's original profession of curiosity about how this Nobel-prize-winning scientist secured the signatures to the petition has now been brushed aside. As the Subcommittee's final report makes manifest – and out of the context of the hearing where Pauling might readily reply – the Subcommittee has wanted to attack the petition rather than investigate it.

The treatment of Pauling is revealed as an exercise in what Mr. Kalven termed "genuine tyranny," and "effort to use the governmental investigatory power to poison the public impression of the Pauling position and to impeach the force of the Pauling petition." The effort was not a great success, for Pauling was a stubborn and intelligent witness. But it further exemplifies the now familiar procedure by which a public agency exploits its authority to discredit a citizen's petition by showing his agreement on a variety of topics with Communists or alleged Communists.

The Senators are suave, respectful of the right of petition, insistent on the sincerity of the great mass of "several thousand free world scientists" who signed the Pauling petition for a ban on nuclear testing. These formal protestations only outline more sharply the report's malice. Though it denounces (doubtless with merit) the Soviet signatures as not "free," it insists virtually that one who differs from the official US view (as the Subcommittee sees it) is Communist-tainted. The report recurrently complains that Pauling's petition is "vague and general"; this turns out to mean that the petition does not expressly repudiate all Russian suggestions about a test ban.

The Subcommittee chose not to press the questioning of Dr. Pauling to the point where contempt proceedings would be the next step. Its main purpose has been to replenish the reservoir of guilt-by-association; to subject to the charge of Communist association any witnesses who offer programs which attempt to mediate between the US official stand and that of the Communist powers.

Defense and the Economy

Sen. Philip A. Hart (D, Mich.), has renewed an effort to bring the effect of the defense budget on the economy under some kind of control. With other Senators, he has introduced a resolution proposing establishment of a select committee of the Senate to conduct "exhaustive studies on the extent to which defense procurement policies in the United States are related to the national economy." The study would provide useful material for the beginnings now being made on forecasting the effect of disarmament (or controlled armament, whichever you like) on the American economy.

Senator Hart started on this path because of the amazing fact that a $40 billion defense budget is doing little for Michigan, the mother country of mass production. Unemployment drags along there at 14.2 percent. In the last quarter of 1960 Michigan received 2.5 percent of the value of military prime contract awards. But Michigan's experience is only dramatic proof that something is wrong in the distribution of the defense budget within the national economy.

The blind, violent nature of the movements of defense procurement can be judged from a series of examples of program changes offered by Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara in his address before the Associated Press in New York on April 24. They included the discontinuance of work on a nuclear-powered plane, a downward modification of development on the B-70, the canceling of two Titan squadrons, the

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cancelation of a Navy fighter plane program, and discontinuance or reduction of operations at 73 bases and other installations (some abroad), with more to come. The figures involved in that short series alone add up to nearly $3 billion. The effect would be great if the amount were drawn equally from all parts of the economy. But it is drawn unevenly. All too often such shifts leave behind it people out of work, plant capacity idle, living communities turning into ghosts.

The competition for defense contracts translates itself into political pressures. Idle communities want work, while employed communities are determined not to lose what they have. The political pressure bears strongly upon the policymakers. The possibility exists that obsolescent weapons systems will be kept alive to avoid the political consequences of shut-downs – at the expense of the introduction of improved systems. How long a period of grace was the manned aircraft granted because of the pleas of the manufacturers, and the politicians behind them?

As we understand Senator Hart, he goes no further, in considering remedies, than to say that all other things being equal, procurement legitimately assignable to stagnant industrial areas should be assigned there. If this makes common sense, it also runs into the hard fact that in at least a decade of trying, the government hasn't been able to find out how to do it.

As to the relation of the proposed study to disarmament, it seems that studies of each of the two different problems would nourish one another. As Senator Hart said: "If we can learn to handle the 'disarmament' which results from shifting patterns in defense procurement, we will be in a better position to handle the broader changes which would result from any international agreement for arms limitation. The development of successful machinery for adjusting to this continuing disarmament would strengthen our economy for the period immediately ahead; it would also provide an answer to Communist propaganda that our economy will collapse without the stimulus of arms manufacture."

Similarly, a study of the economic impact of a negotiated disarmament, and what to do about it, would contribute to the devising of means for dealing with what Hart calls "continuing disarmament," or what we might call roving, unpredictable, disprocurement.

Atlanta's Demonstration

In the single week prior to the bus-burning, jeering and beatings in Alabama, the President of Georgia Tech announced that three Negroes would be admitted, voluntarily and without the usual federal court order. Fifteen white and Negro "freedom riders" arrived at the Atlanta Greyhound terminal in their Southwide test of interstate bus facilities, and were almost surprised at the lack of official discrimination. A county superior court judge ruled that the city's censor, who has ordered changes in 260 films in the past 15 years, was operating unconstitutionally. An attorney filed an attack in the same court against the state's obscenity law. And more than 300 Negro high school students had picked up application blanks at the Atlanta city hall, so that they may take advantage of the court-ordered desegregation of the city's eleventh and twelfth grades next fall.

Nobody, not even those standard purveyors of threat and warning, took to the soapboxes in order to denounce the "ultra-liberals" and "Communist dupes" behind it all. The man on the Atlanta street, who has been exposed to sit-ins, Klan walk-arounds, a few nighttime bombings and an awful lot of talk, seemed to take all this revolutionary news in his stride.

A Kind of Education

In 1958 the massive folly of Governor Almond, Sen. Harry Byrd and leaders in Virginia closed public schools in Norfolk, Charlottesville and Front Royal. These schools have reopened. In 1959 Prince Edward County abolished its public schools to avert court-ordered desegregation. And these schools have stayed closed. State politicians won't comment, neither now in the midst of a gubernatorial primary, nor any other time. They say it is a matter for the courts, again. But what of the children?

One may see for himself by visiting one of the makeshift classrooms in Prince Edward. Inside are seats, a water dipper and paper cups, a few homemade posters and a picture of the President. A 60-year-old teacher rings a dinner bell and summons the children. About two dozen come, ranging from 10 to 17 years old. Forty are officially enrolled, but the teacher explains, "We couldn't possibly fit them all in at once."

She is doing a unit on health, which is one of the most academic subjects taken up in groups like hers. For this isn't a school in any known sense, but an "activity center" for Negro children. "I'm just trying to help our children," the former public school teacher says, "even at my own expense." (She is $200 behind because sponsoring Negro groups have not paid her for two months.)

But her group of children are luckier than some. While a third of the county's Negro children have left to go to school elsewhere, only another third are even enrolled in a center. The last third can be seen from the county's roads, playing or loafing. In peaceful Prince Edward, they have not become delinquents.

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THE LONG LIFE OF UN-FREEDOM IN EAST GERMANY

"Woe To Him Who Thinks"

Bonn

Ten years ago it was commonplace that the Communist regime in Eastern Germany, at that time under tight Soviet control, arrested and imprisoned countless people without fair trial in the usual but terrible tradition of dictatorship. Between 1945 and 1950, according to the West German Social Democratic Party, around 22,000 prisoners died in the single East German concentration-camp of Sachsenhausen (taken over from the Nazis by the Communists). Around 50,000 people were imprisoned during those five years for "political crimes," which meant quite simply for having offered criticisms of the regime. More than 8,000 of them were deported to the Soviet Union and of these 5,000 are known to have died there.

The Western world protested, in those days, loudly if quite unavailingly. Protests caused the East German regime a certain amount of discomfort. But it was possible, then, to suggest, speciously, that rough justice had to be meted out in Germany, after the atrocities perpetrated by Hitler's Third Reich. To some extent it was possible to disguise the fact that most of the people sent to East German concentration-camps between 1945 and 1950 were not ex-Nazis at all. The great majority of them were people who disliked Communist dictatorship. Most were Social Democrats.

Between 1950 and 1960 the East German regime imprisoned another 49,000 – in the main they were political opponents who wanted some additional, possibly only small measure of freedom – perhaps something as modest as the "Gomulka Line" in Poland. By the beginning of this month there were still around 9,000 political prisoners in East German jails.

Among these estimated 9,000 there are 109 people who are known to have been sentenced at the time of the June, 1953, East German uprising against the Communist regime (the number of such people may be somewhat larger). There is a slightly smaller number of people, perhaps 70 to 80, who were sentenced before 1953 by Soviet Military Tribunals. There are at least 50 leading intellectuals, whose "crimes" lay in refusing to subscribe to Stalinist dogma (which in Eastern Germany survived the nominal extinction of Stalinism elsewhere) or in fighting for their own philosophical or historical "truths." Some of them have been sentenced to 15 years imprisonment or more; practically none of them is serving a sentence of less than five years.

The Western world was ready to produce protests in the first few years after the war against imprisonment for political reasons. It was still ready to protest at the time of the Hungarian uprising. Many Americans today are ready to express their disgust over the Castro regime. Yet the Western world seems to have lost all interest in the political un-freedom which continues, unmodified in Eastern Germany. It has even come to regard such a regime as "normal."

It may therefore be salutary to examine the cases of one or two of the political prisoners who have been sitting in East German jails. There is the case, for instance, of Guenter Zehm, arrested in 1957 for "political agitation," sentenced to four years imprisonment and just released. Zehm was a pupil of Professor Ernst Bloch of Leipzig University, who refused to equate his philosophical principles with undeviationist ideas of the regime and who made the additional mistake of paying tribute to the thinking of "Westerners" like Martin Heidegger, Jean Paul Sartre and Karl Jaspers. Zehm taught at Jena University, and at the time of the Hungarian Revolution began, as a very young man, to fall foul of Communist authority.

Zehm was arrested in 1957 on a trumped-up charge of carrying invalid travel documents. He was accused of five crimes. He had given a lecture on Sartre, which constituted an attempt to "smuggle imperialistic existentialism" into the East German Republic. He had said publicly that Walter Ulbricht, as head of the State, still had no right to interfere in matters of the intellect. He expressed his disgust, in an article written for the Jena University students magazine, at the organized murder of political opponents by the Stalin regime. He showed his sympathy, by the written as well as spoken word, with the men of the Hungarian Revolution. And he kept a diary, in which he criticized Ulbricht. The diary was Zehm's ultimate undoing, and a long passage was read out of it at his trial to show that he was a reactionary deviationist. The passage was a direct quotation from Karl Marx, but that did not help.

There is the case of Siegfried Ihle, sentenced to 25 and then to 11 years imprisonment in 1950, and released two months ago. Ihle worked for Leipzig Radio, but in 1949 he wrote for the *New York Herald Tribune* a bald, unvarnished account of living conditions in the East German Republic. After arrest he had his skull fractured by his interrogators. Like Zehm he was imprisoned in three out of the four principal "political prisons." Their names should be recorded for posterity: Waldheim, Torgau, Bautzen and Brandenburg. And

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then there is the case of the author, Erich Loest, who vanished in 1957. The utter disappearance of a leading writer might be considered unusual in any country but Eastern Germany. There it received no official notice for nearly one year. In fact, he spent a year and a half under constant interrogation by the East German State Security Services. During that time he lived in a cell with a bed (which he could not use by day) and a bench, on which he had to sit. He had nothing to read for most of the time, and his cell was lit night and day. Loest's "crime" lay in praising the "Gomulka Line."

"Woe to him who thinks," Guenter Zehm wrote in a recent newspaper article on the subject of the East German political prisons. Some of the so-called political prisoners have not even been guilty of thinking overmuch. I have had quoted to me the case of a 14-year-old boy who was sent to jail for a year, as an "enemy of the State." There is the case of the Jena students cabaret, the "Peppermill," whose members received sentences of up to 15 years for making jokes about the Ulbricht regime. There is the case of a seven-year-old boy arrested by the Russians and severely beaten-up for chalking a swastika up on a wall. He was forced to "confess" as to who had told him to do this, and he identified 14- and 15-year-old seniors in his school. They were arrested and sent to prison.

Still today East German political prisons are places where critics of the regime can expect to be put in a cell with the worst kind of criminals (Zehm once found himself handcuffed between a man who had beaten his wife to death and another who had tortured a small child). Hunger-strikes still go on in these prisons, and are "broken" by the use of fire-hoses or by placing offenders in solitary confinement and depriving them of water as well as food. Political prisoners are mobilized for work, after release, as informers. A few are sent to a "silence camp" near Eggesin, where they vanish completely from human ken. TERENCE PRITTIE

Beyond Recovery to Full Employment

by Alvin H. Hansen

Our immediate concern is to achieve a substantial recovery from the current recession. But beyond that there remains the more difficult problem of growth and the hard core of unemployment.

The opinion is widely held that the economy has been undergoing in recent years a structural change (induced by automation and shifts in demand) which has produced an accumulating mass of unemployment. It is believed that the economy is bound to hit the "inflation ceiling" long before it hits the full employment ceiling.

That we have distressed areas and "pockets of unemployment" no one denies, and a succession of anemic "booms" has allowed a worsening of this condition.

It could be argued that any effort to resuscitate the distressed areas and the declining industries runs counter to progress; that workers should be moved out of these areas, relocated and retrained for absorption into the expanding industries and more promising areas. This might all be good and well if we could be sure of an adequate over-all demand in the economy as a whole. But it is a hopeless task to retrain and relocate workers if they have no place to go.

We are thus brought squarely up against the dilemma that haunts us. Evidence is mounting that we shall not be able to generate an adequate volume of aggregate demand unless we are prepared (which at the moment appears doubtful) to undertake a drastic remodeling of our federal tax-expenditure structure.

The point is this: At existing tax rates, current federal expenditures are too low to generate a full employment level of GNP. Or, conversely if you prefer, at current expenditure levels, tax rates are too high to permit full employment. You can take your choice. Barring some unforeseen luck, we shall not get out of this impasse unless we either cut tax rates or increase federal outlays substantially.

A cut in the first bracket personal income tax rate would increase private consumption expenditures. This would certainly help to push the economy up toward fuller employment, and this in turn would enlarge in some measure investment outlets. By means of this double-barrelled cumulative process, aggregate demand would increase. But there would still remain the problem of per capita growth in GNP.

An increase in consumption outlays can do very little to promote per worker productivity, without

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which there can be no per capita growth. Growth calls for research, improved technology, modernization (not mere expansion) of equipment, schools, education, public health, hospitals, roads, power projects and resource development. These are the well-springs of growth, and they are not fed, or fed very little, from increased consumption whether that consumption is privately financed or publicly financed via transfer payments. Without investment outlays, public or private, there can be no growth.

Investment in producers' fixed capital could be stimulated by tax reform. Accelerated depreciation can serve as a powerful inducement to modernize plant and equipment. An alternative procedure would be to cut the tax rate on income reinvested in excess of past average investment. But private investment alone cannot do the job. In all modern democratic societies public outlays (largely of an investment character) play a vast and increasing role. To repeat, while a cut in personal income taxes would indeed increase consumption and so promote recovery, we must look to private investment and public outlays on goods and services if we wish to promote recovery *and* growth.

It follows from all this that it should not be altogether impossible to gain at least some insight into the amount of "motive power" needed to produce given growth goals. A good look at the *rate of growth* of: (a) private investment in plant and equipment, and (b) government outlays in goods and services should throw some light on this enormously important problem.

I suggest that the "growth push" can, in a rough way, be measured quantitatively by taking the rate of increase, in any given period, of public and private investment "input." Employing this device, let us compare the period 1948-55 with the period 1955-60. As a measure of the "investment input" we take: (a) investment in producers' plant and equipment, and (b) federal, state, and local government outlays on goods and services. Price changes have been eliminated so that both are measured in real terms.

We are now prepared to gauge the "steam in the boiler" so to speak. If the rate of increase of our investment input is high, the growth rate in the economy as a whole should be high; if low, the growth rate could be expected to slow down. The accompanying table tells the story. *I* as here used stands for producers' fixed capital investment; *G* for government outlays on goods and services; *GNP* for gross national product.

Percentage Rates of Increase (compounded) per annum

	I + G	GNP
1948-55	5.5	4.2
1955-60	1.3	2.2

From this table we learn that the high rate of investment input (5.5 percent) in 1948-55 yielded an increase of 4.2 percent per year in GNP. In contrast the low rate of 1.3 percent in 1955-60 slowed down the growth rate of GNP. Admittedly the data is far from being precise but the general drift of the relationship is, I believe, significant.

It will be objected, I am sure, that my analysis overlooks the fact that a large part of the increase in government outlays from 1948 to 1955 could be regarded as spurious so far as growth is concerned since a considerable part of the increase consisted of outlays for national defense. Nevertheless, I defend my figures. In the first place, much of the increased defense outlays contributed directly to advances in technology, not only via a large expansion in research but also in terms of technological improvements – machine tools, machines that make machines, aircraft, etc. In the second place, had that part of defense outlays, which contributed little or nothing to productivity, been spent on investment in human and natural resources, even greater growth rates in GNP could have been achieved. The point is that the relatively high rate of increase in government outlays from 1948 to 1955 *understates* the role that government outlays can play in promoting growth and productivity.

Where does this leave us with respect to our current problem of speedy recovery and, for the long pull, full employment and growth? Looking but one year ahead, our GNP should make a fairly large advance over the recession year 1960. This much can be expected by reason of the inevitable inventory turnabout, together with such expansionist measures, however modest, which now appear likely. Experience shows that the first year of recovery often registers an advance of 6 to 8 percent. This might give us a GNP of $540 billion in 1962. If now we could undertake measures which would boost the rate of increase of our "investment input" to the 5.5 percent rate of 1948-55, we might then expect with a good deal of confidence an increase in the growth rate of GNP of 4 or 4.5 percent. By 1964 this rate of increase could reasonably be expected to reduce the unemployment ratio down to perhaps 3 or 3.5 percent of the labor force.

All this involves, however, a fairly drastic shift in fiscal policy. Already political realists are pointing to a less favorable course of events. A cautiously conservative Congress, a bit to the right of the middle, may well give the economy enough "rope" so that we shall achieve middle range increases in the GNP together with moderately good gains in over-all living standards. But this comfortable, complacent pace, in view of the rapid strides of automation and the growing labor force, would leave us with a continuing problem of high, and possibly even growing, unemployment ratios, and a continuing slowed-down pace of growth in GNP.

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The Corporation Conscience

by Theodore K. Quinn

How many newspaper readers (or Westinghouse stockholders) know that a resolution proposing the immediate removal of Westinghouse Corporation's President Mark W. Cresap, Jr., Board Chairman Gwilym A. Price and Executive Vice President John K. Hornette was defeated on April 5 by a vote of 27,510,498 stockholder's shares to 65,976. The resolution was prompted by the Company's proved criminal violation of the antitrust laws in the Philadelphia price collusion case. "One would be naïve indeed," Federal District Judge Ganey said then, "to believe that such a vast conspiracy was not known to those in charge." He was convinced that in the majority of defendant cases, they were "torn between conscience and an approved corporate policy, with the rewarding objectives of promotion, comfortable security and large salaries – in short the organization or company man, the conformist. . . ."

The Westinghouse vote could mean that the stockholders, without Judge Ganey's complete facts, nevertheless defied his judgment. It could also be interpreted to mean that regardless of the Company's guilt, tens of thousands of law-abiding Americans approve the policy of pursuing profits illegally. However, since the great majority of the stock was voted by a mere handful of trustees of private, pension, insurance and mutual funds, at their own discretion and not by the actual thousands of owners of the stock, we may never know what these real owners thought or how they would have voted if they had an opportunity. The test was not of them but of a small group of economically powerful banking and insurance trustees. They are substantially the same group that will make a similar decision in the case of General Electric's chief officials, and would in fact, hold the balance of power in any other giant corporation whose stock is held in trust, as most stock is today.

The extent of our dependence on these powerful few may be realized when it becomes more generally known that fewer than 500 corporations out of more than three million business units, in turn, control two-thirds of the American non-farm economy. And inside that 500 a much smaller group has ultimate control. This is the highest concentration of economic power in the history of the Western world, and the instrument of the manipulation is the modern corporation. It is an undemocratic power responsible to no one, that does not stop at any economic border line but extends out over investment, output, employment, sales and wage prices and policies and markets, and therefore over all of us whose lives are conditioned by those markets. It spreads its influence over the press and the educational and political fields and is effective everywhere.

The banking, pension, insurance and mutual fund organizations are also giants as big or bigger than the 500 corporations whose common stocks they control. If the chief officers of these trustee corporations were called before public forums to explain their votes on the question of retaining the Westinghouse and General Electric chief officers, we might conceivably be treated to the ludicrous situation of having them deny knowledge of the facts and charge their subordinates with the responsibility as Westinghouse and General Electric did. However, it is not my purpose here further to pursue the impersonality or irresponsibility of the system. Instead, I propose briefly to examine a new phenomenon and the question of its fiction or reality as exemplified in recent corporation conduct.

Being unable to deny the fact of concentrated power and control by giant corporations, a number of apologists in unconscious desperation, have reached far back into the realm of hopeful fantasy and come up with a frail, transparent whimsy which they call the Corporation Conscience. Since so much undemocratic power is untenable it simply must be guided, if not governed, by a conscience, whether or not there is any such thing. For only something like a conscience could weigh the equities that are not measurable by any economic standard. Considerations of equities is vital in any fair distribution of society's income. Excessive profits are naturally suspect when they are the result of monopoly power. High salaries, bonuses, stock options and generous pension plans can be unfair. Whether or not it is appropriate or safe for controllers of giant corporations to have life and death power over hundreds of thousands of small suppliers, franchise dealers, oil stations and other dependents gets to be a question of ethics and of conscience as well as of politics and economics. The questions of what contribution individual corporations should make, with or without sacrifice, to restraining inflation, to regular employment and to eliminating the causes of depressions and recessions are all more or less questions of conscience. Let me illus-

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trate. Within giant corporations pricing discretion can cause over- or under-production with all their ill effects. Lack of competitive pressure causes waste in the use of resources. The maintenance of fixed margins despite falling demand in the "administered price" industries contributes to dangerous fluctuations and unemployment. Research work can be largely wasteful as in the automobile industry where mere style changes are featured, and instead of cost savings and price reductions we have bigger cars and fins and gadgets. We had to wait for foreign competition to get the compact car. Judge Wyzanski said in the United Shoe Machinery case, "Industrial advance may indeed be in inverse proportion to economic power; for creativity in business as in other areas is best nourished by multiple centers of activity, each following its unique pattern and developing its own *esprit de corps* to respond to the challenge of competition." Here again the question of whether corporations should spend more on pure research for the benefit of mankind and less on purely product research to increase their own immediate profits becomes in some measure a question of conscience.

The Disembodied Will

But unhappily, there is no such thing as a Corporation Conscience. Man has qualities of fairness, consideration, pity, compassion and generosity along with his predatory qualities. By himself, there are limits to the cruelties and indecencies he will perpetrate or tolerate. However, when he joins with others in a mob, a movement, a fanatical cause, a gang or a corporation the responsibility of everybody is nobody's. The individual often permits the purpose of the collective undertaking to overcome or replace his conscience. The plea of Eichmann in the Israeli trial will be that he was only obeying orders. The answer of the convicted executives in the Philadelphia case was that they were acting for the benefit of their employers, not for themselves, and some of them consider this a valid excuse – no matter what they did.

Only the individual has a conscience. There simply is no such thing as an inanimate, inhuman or joint conscience. The individual can feel, breathe, sense and realize his blessings and his duties. Nature takes hold of him and never lets him go. But the mob, the gang, the corporation cannot sense anything. The corporation cannot conceive or give birth or recreate itself. It is a mechanism, a thing, not a person.

What can only be meant by the Corporation Conscience is the conscience of the human beings who control it. The Westinghouse Corporation's position with respect to its convicted executives in the Philadelphia case was that they had suffered enough. There is a certain honesty and decency in this. While the chief officials denied personal responsibility they did not go so far as to place complete blame on subordinates to the extent of discharging them. General Electric's chief officials took an entirely different course. They drew a cloak of righteousness around themselves, despite the evidence, the Judge's conclusions and the Company's long record of antitrust violations, and placing the entire blame on their 14 convicted executives they discharged all of them. It is difficult to resist the observation that this was done for appearance's sake. Now we are supposed to believe that only Mr. R. J. Cordiner, the chief executive, was innocent. He among all of them did not know what was going on. In these two instances we have interesting examples of just how so-called Corporation Conscience works in practice.

There is no precedent for the American economic system. It started as a wholly free market, but with the coming of mass production, big business and interdependence it has gradually collectivized into a part "administered" and only part competitive price economy. Questions relating to 19th-Century capitalism and socialism are now largely academic. For our system is as far from one as it is from the other. Yet it comprehends and includes both. It cannot accurately be called a "People's Capitalism" because the majority of our people are not capitalists in the common meaning. Only a small proportion of them are substantial owners of the means of production. But neither is ours a welfare or socialistic state, nor yet a dictatorship. What the Soviets so loosely call our controlling "economic circles" are not in complete command, although they do threaten to assume control through equity trusteeships.

These trusteeships are in the hands of a couple of dozen big banks. Their chief officers together with the chief officers of about a hundred other giant corporations come near to being our economic overlords. Through the conscientious exercise of their enormous power they might maintain their lordly positions for many years. However, there is too little in the record to encourage belief in that possibility. After all, the purpose of a business is to make profits. Everything else it does is incident to that purpose, and the officials in charge must dedicate themselves to it in order to insure their positions. To imagine anything else is to miss the whole point of a business society. In recent years the unrestrained pursuit of profit through higher prices has produced dangerous inflation and seriously weakened our position in the world markets.

The lesson of experience is that America cannot depend upon any fictitious Corporation Conscience or permit the domination of any private power. As the trend continues away from the free market the federal government must play an ever-increasing role if we are to maintain a healthy, fully-employed economy and preserve our freedoms. There simply is no other choice.

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Lessons of the Cuban Blunder

by Louis J. Halle

Statesmanship consists less in avoiding mistakes than in avoiding their repetition. The careers of the boldest statesmen have commonly begun with blunders, but the lessons they have learned from their blunders have subsequently proved to be essential elements in the growth of their statesmanship.

At the time when, without any previous experience, Mr. Kennedy took up the reins of government, some of us recalled the young Theodore Roosevelt and the young Winston Churchill. Recalling them, we expected that he would make some mistakes that a timorous or furtive character would not make. In the decision to support a military invasion of Cuba, he proceeded within three months to fulfill this expectation in a measure that was more than generous.

Now that this historic blunder is behind us, our concern must be to redeem it by making sure that its lesson is learned, and that we all undergo a consequent growth of statesmanship.

There is, in fact, more than one lesson to be learned. For example, our self-defeating intervention against Castro repeated, essentially, our self-defeating intervention against Perón in Argentina 15 years earlier. In both cases we overlooked the rule that conspicuous foreign support may be the kiss of death for any native opposition movement. My concern here, however, is not with why the decision was wrong, but with why it was made at all. I am concerned with weaknesses in the decision-making process, some of which are common to all bureaucracies, some peculiar to our own. The question is how a government that had so much experienced brain-power at its disposal could make a decision, the wrongness of which, as it now seems, should have been evident from the very first.

Anyone who has had intensive experience of how our government operates in these matters can, by a responsible act of imagination, reconstruct what happened, even though he may be wrong in detail. It is such an act of imagination, supported by unusually full press reports, that I undertake here. I shall say no more by way of warning than that my reconstruction undoubtedly contains some exaggerations on the side of clarity. The reality would be more complex than I have painted it.

The President, as we know, made his decision on erroneous information and wrong advice. In our reconstruction of the situation we may begin by asking who are the persons from whom such information and advice came.

They are (in random order) the military chiefs, the responsible officers of the State Department, the experts of the Central Intelligence Agency, and the small group of individual advisers whom press reports refer to as the Harvard intellectuals. These persons, as we reconstruct the scene, have just been brought together in a new relationship to one another and to the new President. Their individual relationships within the new Administration have not yet become established. Those relationships are being tested for the first time and, as a consequence, there will surely be changes in them before they do become established. In particular, anyone who has the President's ear is automatically in competition with everyone else who has the President's ear. He is aware that he is being tested in a competitive situation, and his aim is to survive. In any President's entourage there is bound to be some quiet jockeying for place, but never so much as when an Administration is still at a beginning stage of its formation.

This is the general setting. What, now, is the question that comes up for decision, and how is it posed?

Mr. Kennedy's Administration finds that it has inherited from its predecessor a situation that has its own self-contained dynamics. The United States Government has secretly been arming and training Cuban rebels for a possible attempt to overthrow Castro's regime by invading Cuba. Even though the decision to invade has not yet been taken, preparations are moving forward week by week as if it had. Like a boulder rolling downhill, the process gathers its own momentum and becomes constantly harder to stop.

These circumstances allow the question to be posed, not in terms of whether to inaugurate a process, but rather in terms of whether to stop a process already inaugurated. They allow it to take the form of asking whether the opposition to Castro should be disarmed or allowed to go forward with its developing movement. The CIA might be tempted to present its role in that movement as more incidental than it would later appear to have been.

We may note in passing that the new Administration

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would be more vulnerable to domestic political criticism for actually stopping an anti-Castro movement than for simply omitting to launch one.

In broader terms, however, the question presents itself to the new Administration as one of action or inaction before a dire threat. Shall there be positive action to stop the drift of Cuba into the Soviet bloc, or shall paralysis in Washington allow the drift to continue? Will the previous Administration's program of action be supported, or will the new Administration take positive steps to substitute a program of doing nothing? The question, posed in such terms, virtually answers itself.

One of our national characteristics is admiration for doers, respect for action (rather than words), contempt for passivity. It doesn't matter that, in international relations, as in love, knowing how to wait may be as important as knowing how to act. To wait is to do nothing, and to do nothing is to be a weak sister. We believe in seizing the initiative, in offense rather than defense, and so forth.

If this is true of us Americans generally, it is doubly true of the military. The offensive spirit is considered essential, by the military, to any kind of leadership. We cannot doubt that, asked for their recommendation on the Cuban issue, they favor action over inaction.

The Tough Intellectuals

Under these circumstances, what may we expect the position of the Harvard intellectuals to be? Fresh from the academic world, they are new to the scene of practical decision and action. They are insecure; they are conscious of having to prove themselves in this new setting; and they know that the military, especially, regard them with suspicion. They can almost hear the men in uniform asking whether these professors can act as well as write books, whether when the going gets hot they won't wilt, whether they can stand the gaff. The Cuban decision presents the first great test.

Add to this that the new Adminstration, of which these professors must prove themselves worthy, thinks of itself as an Administration of dynamic action by contrast with the weak and passive Eisenhower Administration (which nevertheless inaugurated the preparations for the invasion that is now at issue).

In this context, the competition among those who have the President's ear is likely to consist of competition to prove one's qualifications as a man of action. We should recall that as a rule it is only a strong man, when he is in a strong position, who can afford to act with restraint and prudence.

The intelligence community, one supposes, emphasizes the limits of its two roles: to report estimates of the situation, and to report on what possibilities of action lie within the means at its disposal. It is not suggesting what the government's policy should or should not be. It is merely giving "information." That "information," however, could well include the difficulty of disarming the rebels, now that they have been supplied and trained, now that they are poised.

The gathering and evaluation of intelligence, in a bureaucracy designed for that purpose, is primarily the work of countless narrow specialists who are preoccupied with detail, with adding up innumerable minute items of information. The kind of ability that this represents does not generally go with a broad view, with a knowledge of human behavior, or with insight into the nature of human societies. Trying to see the whole in terms of such intelligence is like trying to paint a man's portrait from separate reports by separate operatives on each square millimeter of his face.

No one could prove the matter one way or another, but I think the record would show that, as a consequence of these limitations, the professional intelligence community in our government has done least well in estimating or anticipating the course of broad political developments. This is better done by persons who have breadth of knowledge, the over-all view, a feeling for how societies behave in human terms, a sense of history. The intelligence estimates, when they deal with large matters, have generally to be discounted to some degree. The decision-maker must steel himself not to accept them automatically, no matter how great the aura of professional authority with which they are accompanied, especially when they are counter to the sense of the situation.

The CIA, we know, reported favorably on the chances that the Cuban people would support an invasion by anti-Castro rebels. I can account for such a report only by an excessive reliance on what rebels, seeking Washington's support and therefore not disinterested, said to the CIA operatives. It was against the sense of the situation, and I believe that if the President had had a longer experience he would have known that it was against the sense of the situation. A longer experience would, at least, have lessened his respect for the outward impressiveness of advice from the bureaucracy.

What, now, is the position of the responsible men in the State Department? They are conscious of a widespread disposition to accuse them of always holding back from action, of being pettifogging about points of form and usage, of being pretty boys who happen to have a way with a teacup. Therefore they are moved to show themselves bold and resolute in these situations. This is aggravated, in the present case, by the fact that they are smarting under public accusations of having been pro-Castro. They have to compensate, so that the advice which the Secretary of State gets from

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them is inadequate to oppose the advocates of action.

The competition which is normal and inescapable inside all bureaucracies has, then, an insidiously corrupting effect on the judgments that are formulated by the individuals involved. The basis of the advice that they give is not limited to the merits of the situation on which they are advising. This is not shocking, a matter for indignation. It represents, rather, normal human behavior in organizational situations everywhere. I do not accuse these people of a conscious bias away from the merits, but merely of allowing themselves to believe what it was most advantageous to believe, like the lad who would never marry for money but found it possible to love where money was.

In the situation I have described, it will not be surprising if a consensus in favor of going ahead with the planned invasion develops early.

I have no doubt that the other side of the question, too, has its advocates. But their position is weak, and not only because they appear to represent pussyfooting inaction. In any group working toward a collective decision, the essential is to achieve a consensus. The great and anti-social crime, therefore, is to act in a way that tends to disrupt the consensus which is forming. Individualists are not welcome in these situations, social pressures can be put upon them, and they are unlikely to survive for long. The question arises, with respect to the man who tends to disrupt a consensus, whether he is on the team or not on the team. The successful bureaucrat is the one who goes along with every consensus.

Add to this that even those who are notably strong-minded find it hard to resist the natural effect on their minds of a general consensus. When everyone else around the table agrees on what doesn't make sense to me, my disposition is to suppose that the others see something in the situation that I have missed. The tendency, then, is for each man around the table to take as truth, for himself, what seems to be truth for all the others. This also reduces his exposure and vulnerability in the competitive situation. It is safer to be wrong with everyone else than to be right alone. So a collective judgment may be formed that is inferior to what the judgment of each individual on his own would be.

The weakness of collective over individual decision can be met in only one way – by the independence of the President (in this case) from the collective thinking. His position is without the weakness that invests the position of any individual at a lower level, for conformity is not expected of him in the same sense. On the contrary, the tendency is for the group of subordinates to conform to him. His authority is such that he has to be careful, perhaps, not to drop a hint of the tendency of his own thinking at too early a stage, lest everyone else hasten to agree. The President should listen to the judgments of his advisers, individual and collective, but he should then retire into himself to emerge, at last, with his own judgment. He should not *accept* the judgment of his advisers; he should simply *agree* or *disagree* with it.

How Desperate a Threat?

This much said, we must still suppose that those involved in the making of the decision recognize that an invasion of Cuba, even by proxy, can be justified only as a desperate response to a situation that is clearly desperate. It will dramatically violate that legitimacy for which the United States stands in the eyes of the world. Everyone knows that, when its survival turns on an issue, any nation must do what is essential to its self-preservation, even if this involves violations of moral principles and specific legal obligations. I assume that there were lawyers at hand to inform the President that the projected action would constitute a violation of our country's formal obligation, written into inter-American treaties, never to intervene in the internal or external affairs of any other American state; that it would constitute a violation of general international law; and that it would also constitute a violation of the United Nations Charter. The answer to this must have been that we were faced, here, with one of those ultimately desperate situations in which correctness is not what counts.

In our reconstruction, then, we may assume the acceptance of an estimate that the situation was truly desperate. Cuba was being rapidly withdrawn behind the Iron Curtain, it was about to become a permanent member of the Communist bloc, Moscow's empire was about to be extended to our very gates, and Moscow's military strength would soon be permanently mounted upon our frontiers.

My own view (and this will now be tested under circumstances somewhat less favorable than would otherwise have been the case) is that this estimate represents a certain amount of crude exaggeration. It represents the assumption that any government which avows itself Communist or pro-Communist is altogether at Moscow's command. This, again, is an intelligence estimate that goes against the sense of the situation. For Moscow, which cannot control Albania, would not be able to control Cuba even though Cuba became a fully fledged "people's republic." In the long run, moreover, the geographical and logistic circumstances would make it intolerably precarious for the Cubans to tie their economy and their military establishment to the supply-routes from Russia.

It is not hard to guess how such an intelligence estimate, going against the sense of the situation, is

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developed. The military are always disposed to make their estimates in terms of theoretical military capabilities. If Guatemala is under a hostile regime (like the Arbenz regime of a decade ago), they may express alarm at the fact that the oil fields of Texas are within bombing range of it, even though there is no possibility that Guatemala will bomb Texas. In 1950 they were alarmed because, by sending our occupation forces out of Japan into Korea, we were leaving the way open for China to invade and conquer Japan. In practical terms this was nonsense, since it was not realistically conceivable that, under the circumstances of the day, China would actually undertake the reduction of Japan and the military pacification of the Japanese people. It was, however, in response to the insistence of the military, based on this fantastic fear, that we were moved to intervene in the Chinese Civil War, sending our fleet into the Formosa Channel to create a diversionary threat to the Chinese flank. Our present entrapment on Formosa and the Chinese offshore islands is the direct consequence of a move that had no other purpose than that of preventing an invasion of Japan which was quite out of the question.

The Military Judgment

Faced with the Cuban problem, we may assume that the military are scrupulous and honest in pointing out that their estimates are of the military situation only, that the political situation is outside their competence. But this self-limitation involves a curious and dangerous paradox. In the first place, it tends to invalidate the estimate of the military situation, since political circumstances are an essential part of it. (Mexico, after all, could bomb the oil fields of Texas tomorrow but doesn't do so for political reasons.) In the second place, it gives the invalid estimate an authority in the eyes of the civilians that makes them feel obliged to accept it without question. Just as the military recognize that they have no competence in political matters, so the civilians take the position that they have no competence in military matters. If the military testify that the developing military situation in Cuba presents an unacceptable military threat, then the civilians feel that they must take this as given, that their business is simply to act according to the requirements implicit in it. By taking it as given, moreover, they relieve themselves of responsibility. One consequence is that the civilian government of the United States sometimes finds that its function is simply to meet the requirements that have been set for it by the military.

To my mind, this disjointed relationship of the military to policy-making is the most dangerous feature of our present governmental procedure. It has repeatedly caused our involvement in commitments which have weakened our position, sometimes to the point of disaster. What the procedure ought to be was exemplified by Winston Churchill, who as civilian Prime Minister of Great Britain sought the full advice of the Generals and Admirals but made the big military judgments himself, in terms of all the perspectives that fell under his view alone.

It simply is not true that the military know best when it comes to matters which can be denominated military-strategic. The vision to which they are trained is too narrow, too technical and too crude. The fact that they are human, moreover, repeatedly makes it proper to discount their recommendations in terms of a political bias that may be unconscious – just as it might be proper to discount the military recommendations of some French Generals with respect to Algeria. Here, too, the President and his civilian advisers, including the Secretary of State, may *agree* with the judgments of the men in uniform but should never feel themselves obliged simply to *accept* them.

The military, however, are only one factor in producing alarmist estimates of the situation. Here we are again confronted with something like the psychology that attaches more honor to advice which urges action than to advice which urges prudence. The man who takes the most extreme view of the menace that the enemy represents gains credit for recognizing the enemy's full evil and for being firm against it; while the man who takes a moderate view is regarded as soft-headed and gullible. If, for example, the latter thinks it not clear that Castro is a Communist, who takes orders from Moscow, he shows how easily he is taken in. The dynamics of the bureaucratic competition, consequently, may lead to competition in viewing with alarm.

I still tremble inwardly when I remember a case in which a young junior official turned in an alarmist report, on a local situation, that was full of dramatic but categorically false information, some of which had simply been invented. Senior officers above him in the line of command felt that they could not intervene without themselves being accused of being soft-headed about Communism. The report, therefore, went to the top of the government, where it contributed to involving our country in an adventure which, except for the sheer good luck that saves all of us time and again, would have ended in a notable disaster. Afterward, the young man in question received an honors award and a promotion.

One hesitates to refer to these human factors in a great bureaucracy, but it is important that they be known. They make it easy to understand how the Government of the United States could act on an estimate of the Cuban situation that, bad as the situation was, may still not have been warranted. (They also make it easy to understand how Mr. Khrushchev can

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believe that President Kennedy takes orders from Governor Rockefeller, since what is true of our own bureaucracy must be doubly true of the Russian.)

The chief lessons to be drawn from all this pertain to the heavy role of the President, one man who must make himself count for more, in the decision-making process, than the whole bureaucracy under him. He must constantly discipline that bureaucracy to give good service (which means that heads should fall more often than they do). He must also respect it, digesting the facts with which it supplies him, weighing the arguments that it puts before him, taking its recommendations seriously. But in the privacy of his mind he must understand its weaknesses and qualify, accordingly, the respect that he feels for it. He must understand that, while it can supply intelligence, it is not itself intelligent. Consequently, all final judgments must be his own.

In dealing with the military he must understand, as they generally do themselves, the limits of their training and competence. He must hold that his over-all view is superior to their narrow view, even with respect to matters classified as military-strategic. I know of no more dedicated, patriotic and honorable men than those who, for the most part, staff the upper ranks of our military services; but the disposition to accept their word on so many vital matters has, since 1945, given them a role in the making of policy which they have not sought and ought not to have.

What applies to the President is not without its application to his civilian advisers and the heads of the principal departments under him. They, too, must be willing to question military testimony on the military situation and its requirements.

Finally, it is a chronic weakness among us to accept every question put up for decision in the form in which it is put up. "Shall the United States launch an invasion of Cuba by rebel forces?" is one question and may produce one answer. "Shall the United States save Castro by stifling the opposition to him?" is another question that may produce another answer. An observer of these decision-making processes can plausibly come to the conclusion that as much care should be given to formulating the right question as to producing the right answer.

President Kennedy, with notable character and ability but without experience, has inherited a situation of which he could not, at the outset, appreciate all the weaknesses. Sometimes a disaster is necessary as a shock. It reveals what would not otherwise be revealed, it galvanizes the mind, it leads to reforms, and it justifies such an outspoken examination of our normal human weaknesses as this article has undertaken.

Where positive and hopeful developments date from a disaster, that disaster may, in the long run, prove to have been constructive.

What's Fit To Print?

by Louis M. Lyons

In the confusing and contradictory medley of voices rejecting the President's request for more constraint by the press, one of the most candid is Turner Catledge's. The managing editor of the *New York Times* said: "Our primary obligation is to our readers. I wouldn't know how to interpret our obligation to the government."

That is precisely the problem.

It was inevitable that newspapermen should have felt, of Mr. Kennedy's speech to the publishers, that he was speaking out of his burn over the Cuban failure, and was trying to share the blame. The newspaper committee that called on the President after that speech, to find out what he meant, rebuffed him. The report at the time was that they were so solidly negative that he did not even present to them the plan he had prepared. That plan has since been published, and the later response of members of the newspaper committee indicated that some at least were either unaware of or did not understand his proposal; it would seem to call for consideration which it has not yet had.

As confirmed by Pierre Salinger, the President suggested that the newspapers themselves appoint a journalist (presumably someone of the stature of Byron Price or Elmer Davis) to serve as a clearing house in Washington, to whom they could refer sticky questions bordering on security, for guidance. The President said the newspaper appointee would be fully informed by

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the government of secret material. Reference to him by the press would be voluntary. They could take or leave his counsel. It would be more informed than their own guesses, and would presumably enhance their chance to make a sound judgment.

This sounds innocent, but the caution of newspapermen is understandable. A natural question is whether this might become a first step toward a system which would become more official and less voluntary. But this possibility will arise anyway if continued world tensions cause a rising concern for security. If such a situation is reasonably to be anticipated, would press and public have a better chance to sustain a maximum of dependable information through the proposed arrangement or through doing nothing until a more drastic governmental move became inevitable?

This is a guessing game. But, to the uninitiate, it is hardly to be taken for granted that the only possible answer is an automatic "no." Editor Benjamin McKelway of the Washington *Evening Star* observed that such a system would be incomplete unless it dealt also with mail and correspondence going abroad. But this is surely of fringe importance. Suppose an edition were missed till a story bounced back from London, as on Mr. Nixon's off-record speech that advocated US intervention in Indo-China in 1954. The beat would be no greater than seeing the story first on TV. Newspaper scoops have become so nearly obsolete that the public assumes them to be leaks.

The Shock of Surprise

Something else may be involved here. It was a proper reaction to the President's speech to the publishers that public confidence in the newspapers is vital – to publishers, to readers and to the government – and that confidence would not be inspired by announcing a plan to leave news *out* of newspapers. It may be questioned, however, whether the plan the President has finally described would not seem to the reader to be meeting the newspaper insistence on having every possible piece of news it is safe to print. The other side of the coin on reader confidence must also be vital to newspapers – that is that they do not sound irresponsible about questions of security.

Still, the President's timing could not have been worse than to scold the press when he had just had his fingers burnt in Cuba, as to which Turner Catledge again was candid in saying, "If I have any regrets about this story, it is that we didn't get into it a great deal earlier." Other responsible newsmen, notably James Reston of the *Times* and David Wise of the *Herald Tribune*, have asked whether it would have served the national interest more had the newspapers told what they knew about the Cuban affair, in time for public opinion to have had its impact in the interval of administrative indecision.

The primary fact about the Cuban business is the restraint the newspapers did exercise. The *New York Times* waited till the day after the collapse of the invasion before publishing the full inside story, which it had held till the venture failed.

To be sure there had been bits and pieces of information. But it was fragmentary, for the most part very gingerly handled, much of it officially denied, and none of it adding up to the picture the public had, once the invasion was over.

The early news came from Guatemala and was hard to distinguish from the kind of rumors that had been rife around the Caribbean from the start of the Castro regime. It was not initiated by the press, which was weeks and months behind in picking it up from an obscure academic publication.

Later on, the boastful babel from rival exile groups in Florida inevitably leaked a mixture of rumor and unconfirmable information that presented editors with headaches and such readers as ever saw it with confusion. It did not save the nation from the shock of surprise on April 17, or from the officially-inspired misinformation of ensuing days until the 21st, when, the story over, it began to be told. The *New York Times* described the official misinformation put out during the Cuban affair in an editorial protest of the public's "right not to be lied to."

This gets us to the further complication of the CIA, which, as is now known, was manipulating the Cuban operation, not only in Florida but in Guatemala. It adds confusion to consideration of the President's proposal to the press that the occasion for it arose out of this CIA operation. It may be too much to hope that the CIA will not again be engaged in "operations." The apparent intent to bring the CIA under control of the government implies finding an answer to the question whether the CIA should be assigned or allowed the dual function of intelligence gathering and conducting para-military operations.

For it does us little good to suggest that the British Intelligence Service throughout its long history was sacrosanct from publicity, except in fiction. The British agency appears to have been confined to the role of intelligence. Insofar as a secret agency confines itself to intelligence, it may well be held that it is the responsibility of the government to keep its own secrets.

But the CIA has never been limited to so specific a role. The story of the U-2, in its accidental disclosure of the unconfined role of the CIA, revealed also a system of "cover" stories the government had ready to meet such an emergency. Even to the unsophisticated it became clear that such "cover" stories had been used before, when our planes were hostilely received on

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missions at the edges of the Communist empire. But the more devastating disclosure was that these "cover" stories had fooled even the State Department's own official spokesman into putting out false information that, within hours, he had to contradict. Of deeper concern was the testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee which showed the State Department was itself in such remote relation to the CIA that it hadn't even thought of the need to caution them about espionage flights on the eve of a peace conference.

The historian of the CIA, Harry Howe Ransom, spelled out, in an article in the *New York Times Magazine* of May 21, that the CIA "played a dominant role in the overthrow of Premier Mossadegh in Iran in August, 1953," and "aided the successful counter-revolution against the regime of Colonel Arbenz" in Guatemala in 1954. Veteran foreign correspondents shrugged at Mr. Ransom's restraint in mentioning only the most widely bruited of the foreign operations of the CIA. They had their own private stories to tell about the Congo and Laos and some other places.

Shortcomings of the Press

One of the large questions for the press is how much constraint to exercise about the manifest activities of the CIA in other countries, especially if it seems to be running its own foreign policy, whether or not it conflicts with what the US is nominally and openly espousing as a supporter of United Nations policy, or that of an ally. The French foreign minister felt it necessary to deny any French responsibility for reports, printed in respectable American and French newspapers, of CIA contact with the insurrectionist leaders in Algiers. One need not believe any worse of the CIA in this instance than impulsive and unguarded efforts at information, to raise the question whether their ventures in the area of diplomacy are entitled to an inviolable shield of secrecy, which has so far almost universally been accorded them.

The CIA has more employees than the State Department. Its visibility is dramatized by the vast structure of its new headquarters in Langley, Virginia. It is surely incongruous that officials of a secret agency make public speeches, have background press conferences and submit even to a question period, that its chief even has submitted to an interview for a magazine. Allen Dulles has been quoted as saying it is often irksome to be the head of a secret agency "and we realize a little advertisement might improve our public relations."

But surely a secret agency should have no public relations or a chief who finds secrecy irksome. Else, should not the press take Mr. Dulles on his own terms and subject his agency, like any other, to the test of public relations, which is sound policy. He surely cannot expect his public relations to rest wholly on self-statement, uncriticized and carried in media uninformed except through "cover" stories.

It does not help a bit, however, for Felix McKnight, as President of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, to suggest to the publishers that critics of the press should be driven back into their holes. The press needs more, not less, criticism, for its own strength and its public function. The shortcomings of the press are far more in what they fail to print than what they do publish; and publishers, as a group, are about the last people to ask to be more cautious. Indeed the problem of the press to inform Americans as fully as the President concedes they must be informed, is more news, and more informing news. This is primarily a problem of management. The staff resources are there. It is chiefly a matter of rational deployment of resources. Instead of 450 reporters at Cape Canaveral and 436 at a Presidential press conference, on which a full text is available to everyone, have somebody in Algiers, somebody in Seoul, somebody in Havana, somebody in Istanbul, somebody in Iran, so that each new coup or revolution that distorts the shape of our world will not take Americans by the complete surprise that comes only to the uninformed. To cope with the CIA we need more foreign correspondents and we need them around long enough to know their way around. When it was the British flag that the sun never set on, it was said that the German foreign office worried more about the information *London Times* correspondents had than about the British foreign office. There is no reason in economics why the American press should be less informed than that of imperial Britain in its heyday.

And it isn't only abroad. How much did newspaper readers in the North hear of the troubles of the Freedom Riders in the 10 days before their bus was burned in Anniston, Alabama? After the Montgomery mob, the *Birmingham News* said: "We have let gangs of vicious men ride this state for months. They have been riding in Tuscaloosa, in Sylacauga, in a dozen other fine towns."

Well, this was the first I'd heard of it.

How many readers of other newspapers have known of the suits of intimidation brought against the *New York Times* in Alabama for reporting precisely the racial climate that has since been demonstrated to the world?

I am willing that the organized press shall have the last word on the President's suggestion. But not until they have earned, as Turner Catledge has, his right to say, "Our primary obligation is to our readers." That, responsibly interpreted, covers everything. But first it needs to be posted in a lot of city rooms and newspaper publishers' offices.

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Who Turned the Bull Loose?

If one were permitted to believe that the collapse of law and order in Arkansas and then in Alabama was due entirely to a spontaneous outburst of a biological urge, the situation might be more serious, but it would be less sickening. But as a matter of fact those riots were as phony as a "popular demonstration" in Moscow's Red Square. The rioters rioted because they were given the tip to riot, not in so many words, but by the significant acts of Governor Faubus in one state and Governor Patterson in the other.

The riots themselves, of course, were perfectly authentic. There was nothing phony about the brickbats and clubs and switch-blades, nor about the frenzy with which they were used. The plug-ugly element is an objective fact. It is to be found in any large city, but ordinarily it is held within bounds by a healthy fear of the law. However, it is capable of perpetrating barbarities at the least hint that barbarities will be tolerated by officers of the law.

The fraud is the assumption that never-dying race hatred is the cause of these outbreaks. The true cause is the conduct of those officials who gave the plug-uglies reason to believe that they would permit and perhaps secretly welcome outbreaks. A hint is enough to release the sub-human propensities of such people, regardless of the object toward which they are directed. They enjoy rioting for its own sake and, if they conceived that they had an invitation to do so, they would mob Jews, or Catholics, or Darwinian evolutionists as readily as they did mob Negroes.

On the other hand, it might be a good idea for such enthusiasts as the "freedom riders" to take a long, hard look at the career of the Hon.(?) Thaddeus Stevens, of Pennsylvania, whose announced purpose bore a marked resemblance to their own, although he flourished nearly a hundred years ago. Not a few people have presumed to doubt that Thad's announced purpose was his real one. A mania for revenge and a lust for power can account for his course without bringing idealism into it at all.

Regardless of his motive, however, at the start Thad had the formal consent of the North and West to establish the newly-emancipated slaves in a position of full social as well as political equality. The event proved, though, that it was a consent based more on logic than on intense emotion; for when Thad's scheme, after 11 years of intense and expensive effort had got nowhere, the North and West lost what small enthusiasm they had had in the beginning; and in 1876 they walked out.

They did not repudiate the principle. They quit because they had been driven too fast and too far and had come to suspect that Stevens and his friends were probably disingenuous and certainly incompetent.

Well, the freedom riders are driving us pretty fast and pretty far. When a Negro child is denied the chance for a decent education; or when a Negro citizen, going about his lawful occasions, is subjected to financial loss and bodily injury solely on account of his color, the full power of the United States ought to be available to redress the grievance, and the expense of the operation is irrelevant. But when it is a question merely of wounded pride, not of robbery or broken bones, people will begin to take account of the cost.

Merely moving 600 or 700 United States marshals into Montgomery, Alabama, and maintaining them there was an operation that couldn't be paid for with small change and that, of course, was a tiny fraction of the whole cost. The glee that the rioting excited in Moscow hurt us more than the loss of many millions of dollars; and worse than Moscow's glee is the embarrassment of those who have been our good friends.

The primary blame rests upon the rioters, just as the damage in the invaded china-shop rests primarily upon the bull; but the secondary and far heavier blame rests upon those who turned the bull loose and those who incited him to frenzy. For any state contemptuously to ignore the laws of the United States regulating interstate travel is an offense calling for correction; but to try to bring about correction of the offense by means that inflict terrific injury upon the whole country is not an act of high patriotism.

The subordination of one's private interest to the public good is an accepted definition of patriotism. But the subordination not of private interest, but of basic principle to anything else is a definition of moral treason. Upon one horn or the other of this dilemma the rigidly logical American is sure to be impaled. But the dedicated serenely ignore impalement; it is the illogical, the opportunists who shudder at the fate precipitated upon the country by ill-timed insistence on principles that are perfectly logical but whose application may for the moment be inexpedient.

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We, the People of Alabama . . .

by Helen Fuller

"When the war between the states and the nation ended," Civil War historian William B. Hesseltine points out, "the bodies of those who had died that 'this nation, under God, shall not perish from the earth' rested in neat rows in *national* cemeteries." Some forgetful Alabamans recently had to be reminded how that contest came out. Painful though the process was, it contained some "useful lessons for us all to learn," as John F. Kennedy remarked about another recent disaster. But as usual on such occasions eyewitnesses differ about why the calamity occurred and what "lessons" it should teach.

The story began on May 5 when 13 white and Negro men and women, members of the Congress of Racial Equality, left Washington, D. C., by bus. Purpose: to challenge segregation in the buses and in the waiting rooms, rest rooms and restaurants of bus stations between Washington and New Orleans. Calling themselves "Freedom Riders," the 13 progressed with only minor incidents down through North and South Carolina, across Georgia and as far as the Alabama state line. But at Anniston, Alabama, the mobile sit-in demonstrators met a mob that beat them and set fire to their bus. (The bus is a significant institution in the South. The poor man's transportation, it stops right downtown where passengers mix and mingle as they would not at an outlying railroad station.) Organized hoodlums again hauled the riders off the substitute bus that carried them on to Birmingham. No police help came, though the city hall was just around the corner.

When bus drivers refused to haul the Freedom Riders on to Montgomery for fear of further attacks, the group reluctantly abandoned the bus and escaped to New Orleans and thence back north to their homes by plane.

In spite of the change in plans, CORE headquarters and the riders, proud of their foray, were preparing a celebration in Washington when word came of a new development. Inspired by the CORE riders, a group of students in the Nashville Non-Violence Movement had resolved to join the CORE caravan. But by the time seven of them reached Birmingham, the original party had gone. Determined to carry on, the Nashville group tried to board buses for Montgomery until taken into "protective custody" by the police and finally driven to the Tennessee state line and released. But the seven borrowed a car and drove back to Birmingham.

Meanwhile 12 more followers of the Martin Luther King version of passive resistance had arrived. A Department of Justice representative had tried to deter the reinforcements by pointing out to the 22-year-old organizer of the Nashville protest, Diane Nash, how dangerous the situation in Alabama had become.

"It was as if I were talking to a wall," the spokesman later told a reporter. "She never listened to a word." Miss Nash explained in her turn that there was no need to listen: "We aren't going to stop, not now. Why, those people in Alabama think they can ignore the President of the United States, and they think they can still win by beating us Negroes over the head."

"We saw this as a chance to go ahead and the kids wanted to go. All the kids knew that death was a real possibility on this trip. John Lewis [a student who had made the first part of the trip] told us how rough it was. Each kid who went said he was willing to give his life."

On Saturday, May 20 the Nashville group boarded a bus in Birmingham for Montgomery.

By this time, however, they were a quiet cause for official commotion. For five days following the refusal of bus drivers to transport the CORE riders to Montgomery, free travel had not been possible in Alabama. FBI reports on Birmingham and Montgomery and talks with leaders of the Freedom Riders made the Attorney General so apprehensive that he began to lay plans for swiftly assembling a large civilian force for an emergency. After Little Rock, coming to understand what uniformed troops still symbolize to the Southern mind, Attorney General William P. Rogers had set up a special program of riot training for deputy federal marshals. Robert Kennedy gave orders to make them ready.

Meanwhile Kennedy was constantly on the telephone – repeatedly calling Gov. John Patterson, police officials, bus owners and union representatives, trying to start the wheels rolling again. After days of getting no answer when he tried to reach Patterson, the Attorney General asked the President to try his luck – still no answer. A telegram from Patterson finally requested a Presidential representative to talk things over.

On the night of May 18, John Siegenthaler, aide to Robert Kennedy, received the Governor's pledge that he could and would fully protect everyone in Alabama under any contingency and his assurance that he needed no federal assistance to do it. Specifically, the Governor guaranteed the safe passage of the bus due to bring the Freedom Riders to Montgomery the next morning, discussing in detail with his aides the best way of doing so. Siegenthaler phoned Robert Kennedy

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from the Governor's office to report the agreement. And at Patterson's suggestion Justice officials notified the Greyhound Bus Company of the guarantee.

Up to a point it was carried out. State highway patrol officers flanked the bus all the way to the Montgomery city limits to prevent hijacking; a state-owned plane kept surveillance overhead. But at the city limits the protection ended. Not a single policeman was in sight when the bus drove in, although the FBI had notified the police department of the need for special protection.

The armed mob that was there, witnesses say, could have been any group of lower middle-class Southerners and their wives out for an outing. "There was a really gay atmosphere about the whole thing, like taking the children to a parade . . . their attitude was one of real jolliness and when one of the women would scream 'Go get him!', it was exactly the same yell you hear at football games."

When the President's representative, Mr. Siegenthaler, happening to drive by, tried to rescue a young girl being pursued by attackers, he was beaten unconscious for his trouble and police allowed him to lie in the street for nearly half an hour.

The next day, Sunday, some 400 deputy US marshals, led by Deputy Attorney General Byron White, and Martin Luther King, flanked by his veteran leaders from the "sit-in" campaigns, separately came to town. Before the day was out only the presence of the marshals had prevented an even larger and wilder mob from attacking a rally of the Reverend King's followers, and the Governor had admitted failure by declaring a state of martial law and summoning his Alabama National Guard to keep order. But the mob thought it had won when it surrounded the church, and still thought it had won the next morning. "None of the guys will get in jail, just wait and see."

Those Freedom Riders who did not land in the hospital hid out in private homes while the Reverend King, CORE leaders (who had hastily moved to rejoin the Ride) and Non-Violence leaders from around the country met to decide where to go from there.

Siegenthaler, dismissed from the Montgomery hospital after his head wounds were patched up, hurried back to Washington where Robert Kennedy was trying to anticipate the next guerrilla attack in the South.

Hopes and Assumptions

No one expected just what happened in Montgomery. The Freedom Riders were "looking for trouble" in that they wanted to shatter any local law they could find that stood across the path of federally sanctioned civil rights. But they were not seeking broken heads or smoke bombs. The spontaneous decision of Nashville students to join an abandoned venture caught the cautious Non-Violence leaders temporarily off guard.

Far less bullish politicians than Robert and John F. Kennedy might have assumed that at some safe point they could reason with their strong backer for the 1960 Presidential nomination, John Patterson, to handle the bus matter their way, and could expect that in return for substantial patronage say-so as Democratic National Committeeman for Alabama, Birmingham Police Commissioner Eugene Connor might be willing to see a few things Washington's way.

Also a slow-thinking young Governor could not be blamed too much for assuming the loyalty of those associated with him when he had decided to give in to the Administration's demand for law enforcement. (There are knowledgeable insiders who attest that Patterson was dumbfounded when Commissioner Sullivan's police went AWOL and who attach significance to the fact that when Sullivan finally appeared at the bus station following the riot, he was in the company of Attorney General Gallion, candidate for Governor to succeed Patterson, and hopefully to take over his white supremacy following.) Nor was it foolish on the face of it for the Governor to hope that in time his demanding friends in Washington would stop phoning impossible demands and come to understand his need to leave office a "popular" man on the race issue if he was to have any future usefulness to them. After all, they had not been tough to get along with before.

There was no reason at all for Patterson to suppose either that major newspapers of the state would choose this moment to abandon him, but they did. *The Birmingham News*, the day after the second Montgomery riot, headlined an editorial across the top of page one: "We, the people, asked for it. As we wail in our anguish, let us not forget it. . . . We, the people, let the Governor of the great state of Alabama, John Patterson, talk for months in a manner that could easily say to the violent, the intemperate . . . that they were free to do as they pleased when it came to the 'hated' integrationists. We, the people, have let gangs of vicious men ride this state now for months. . . ." *The Montgomery Advertiser* declared that the measure of Patterson's errors was that "these Freedom Riders passed through every state from Washington to Alabama. But only Alabama . . . has a problem because of it."

The protests against tolerance of violence by these papers would have come with more grace and persuasiveness *before* their own reporters and photographers had been beaten. Alabama newspapers with few exceptions have stood rigidly defensive against articles in Northern newspapers and magazines which described the lawless situation in Birmingham. And when *The New Republic* (May 30, 1960) wrote of "the lack of legal restraints that exist today in Birmingham," the *Post-Herald* in that city replied (June 9) with the charge

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that we were guilty of "vicious misinformation."

Everyone involved encountered some element of the unexpected. Governor Patterson managed to convince himself he could have it both ways: take public credit with the redneck racists for refusing to "escort" the "agitators," and avoid physical clashes by jailing a few under special injunction. He misjudged the mood of a public after seven years of incitement to defiance of the Supreme Court by most of its elected officials, and overestimated his personal political skill.

The tardy action of the Governor in calling out units of the Alabama National Guard has quieted the scene momentarily, but what reason is there for faith in any basic improvement? The Guard, itself segregated, acts under orders from Patterson whose character has been exposed by the best authority – himself. Police Commissioners Connor and Sullivan of Birmingham and Montgomery have demonstrated minimum concern for lawful protection. The Attorney General of Alabama is a candidate for Governor and has his mind on votes. Any member of the Alabama delegation in Congress who spoke out just now against the mobs would be a dead duck in the next election. True, a hero among them would be acclaimed by the nation, but what about the Klansman who probably would take his place?

In short, no vehicle of substantial and immediate improvement is available within Alabama leadership. Indeed the short-time result of this initial federal intervention is likely to be negative. The toughs will be after more blood. The remaining liberals and moderates in Alabama today have been under pressure and suspicion, and now literally must be silent for their lives.

Under these circumstances, active federal concern for the protection of lives in Alabama, and probably in Mississippi, cannot in good sense be slacked off in the near future, and certainly not until officials of these two states have demonstrated a change of attitude.

In this connection, the full vigor of federal authority in tracking down and convicting the guilty leaders of the mobs can have a vastly sobering effect.

The President seems to be wisely reserving his personal influence against a larger crisis. But with his backing, Robert Kennedy acted in the Alabama incidents in a way to leave no room for questions as to his courage and resolution. To do this without bringing down a storm of condemnation from Southern Democrats in Congress speaks volumes for the relationships of the Kennedys with these men over the years.

The Attorney General also seems to have a proper measure of the difficulty ahead. "This is just one incident in a long struggle," the younger Kennedy said the morning after the Sunday violence. "It's going to continue not for weeks and months but for long into the future." With this prospect in mind, the Attorney General's office is proceeding at full speed to prepare for future troubles by locating and surrounding them. The FBI is fanning out over the South trying to spot potential outbreaks before they can happen. And Kennedy men are trying hard to keep lines of communication open to the direct action civil rights groups.

In building his strategy, Mr. Kennedy should not underestimate the fervor and force of the non-violent assault on Jim Crow. "The moment has come," Martin Luther King told the embattled Negroes in the First Baptist Church after the riot was broken up, "for a full-scale – non-violent – massive assault on the system of segregation in the South." His colleague, the fiery Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth of Birmingham, put it less elegantly that same night: "Let's go on and get it all now . . . no more compromise." The 65,000 Negro college students who will begin summer vacations in a few days play an important part in these plans.

The Lines of Power

And we must hope that the Administration understands too that Alabama and Mississippi cannot at this stage be treated like North Carolina and Virginia. States which practice total defiance of the Supreme Court must be dealt with somewhat differently than states that have yielded somewhat. For Alabama, the visit of the Freedom Riders was a kind of extension of the Autherine Lucy case. The state escaped facing its moment of truth then by raising the false issue of Miss Lucy's motives in seeking admission to the University of Alabama and by resorting to violence. If the Negroes persist boldly in claiming their rights and the federal government persists in protecting their persons while they do so, however, the moment will be near.

The Administration could speed it, if in addition to the use of his moral and legal powers, the President does not overlook the economic weapons in his hand. They might be the most effective of all. They could reach the sensitive perception of the conservative business community of the South which for the most part until now has remained, in appearance at least, above the howling strife. The business community of Montgomery would rock on its foundations should the federal government restrict activity at Maxwell Air Force Base, which provides much of Montgomery's daily bread as well as all of its butter.

In Alabama, as in most of the South, the lines of economic and political power run from elected officials in Birmingham and Montgomery straight to New York, Washington and other cities of the North. The belief is inescapable that if the men at the other end of those lines were to act with courage and in terms of the highest moral and national interest – or just because the Administration in Washington asked them to – they could improve things in Alabama.

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The Legacy of Malcolm Lowry

by J. M. Edelstein

In the four years since his death at the age of 48, Malcolm Lowry's life has become a legend and his brilliant novel, *Under the Volcano*, first published in 1947, has received an increasing amount of attention and admiration. Lowry, who wrote and revised continually, published very little. *Ultramarine*, a novel, appeared in England,

Hear Us O Lord
from Heaven Thy Dwelling Place
by Malcolm Lowry
(Lippincott; $4.95)

where Lowry was born, in 1933, and is a youthful account of Lowry's own voyage as a seaman, aged eighteen, aboard a freighter to the Orient and through the Indian Ocean. *Under the Volcano*, on which Lowry worked for over a decade while living in Mexico, the United States and British Columbia, together with the few poems and short pieces which appeared in magazines, make up the rest of his published work. Now, in *Hear Us O Lord From Heaven Thy Dwelling Place* (a collection of seven stories which were in virtually final form at the time of Lowry's death), we have more of some of the finest writing of our time.

The stories in *Hear Us O Lord from Heaven Thy Dwelling Place* – a line from an old Manx fishermen's hymn – were planned by Lowry as part of a sequence of six or seven books, of which *Under the Volcano* would have formed the center. To have been called *The Voyage that Never Ends* (Eugene O'Neill was an early and strong influence on Lowry), the projected series would have had as a central figure the character Sigbjorn Wilderness (really Lowry himself, as well as the Consul of *Under the Volcano*), who appears in a number of these stories.

Although Lowry did not live to complete his project, he did write its final episode, "The Forest Path to the Spring," which is the longest story in *Hear Us O Lord;* it is, actually, a short novel in itself of some 30,000 words. The notes which Malcolm Lowry left at his death indicate that this story was to have been the substance of one of his projected books, and that its final scene was to have been the final scene of the entire sequence. It is unexpected and, no doubt, significant, after the bitterness and melancholy of *Under the Volcano*, that this novella, with its concern for happiness, its emphasis on the magic of laughter, and its resolution of hopefulness, should be at the end of Lowry's posthumous volume of stories. The setting of "The Forest Path to the Spring" is the beach at Dollarton, near Vancouver, where Lowry and his wife lived, except for short periods, from 1940 to 1954, and its themes are the love between a man and woman and the search for drinking water by those who live close to nature. Below, in the closing words of this story, is a sample of Lowry's prose that is both virile and poetic, that is rich, profound and moving, that is capable of meaning on many levels, and is, in short, literature:

> "And the spring? Here it was. It still ran. . . . It purified itself a bit as it came down from the mountains, but it always carried with it a faint tang of mushrooms, earth, dead leaves, pine needles, mud and snow, on its way down to the inlet and out to the Pacific. In the deeper reaches of the forest, in the somber damp caves, where the dead branches hang bowed down with moss, . . . it was haggard and chill and tragic, unsure measurer of its path. Feeling its way underground it must have had its dark moments. But here, in springtime, on its last lap to the sea, it was as at its source a happy joyous little stream.
>
> Laughing we stooped down to the stream and drank."

The most extraordinary and, perhaps, the most beautiful of the stories in *Hear Us O Lord* is "Through the Panama – From the Journal of Sigbjorn Wilderness." This "story-journal" was begun by Lowry while on a freighter trip he and his wife made from Vancouver through the Canal to Europe in the autumn of 1947, after the publication of *Under the Volcano*. Sigbjorn Wilderness, the narrator, after leaving his Canadian home, departs with his wife from Vancouver for Europe, via the Panama Canal, aboard an American-built French merchant ship. Like Lowry, Wilderness is a novelist; he keeps a journal; his principal character is a man called Martin Trumbaugh. It is as if a game of mirrors continuously reintroduces the author, the narrator, and Trumbaugh – three figures who reveal themselves through one another, and who also disclose the figure of the Consul, in an alternating fugue-like recurrence of the themes of the sea, of alcohol, and of death – the three most compelling of Malcolm Lowry's daemons – in an amazing mixture of invention and scrupulous reporting. Only *Under the Volcano* (about which it is difficult to speak to anyone who has not read it) rivals this story in revealing Lowry's genius for conveying the many levels of consciousness and of feeling, and for mixing the imagination and the self. "Through the Panama" is surely one of the most impressive stories I have read by a contemporary writer.

Sigbjorn Wilderness, in "Through the Panama," says: ". . . the true freedom of every traveler is lost forever in his own world," and it was the similar metamorphosis of his own life into art that concerned Malcolm Lowry. In "The Forest Path to the Spring," Lowry stood on the shore of the Pacific

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and, again and again, he heard "deep-sea freighters . . . their engines saying:

Frère Jacques
Frère Jacques
Dormez-vous?
Dormez-vous?

"This is the ship's endless song." "Through the Panama" begins and ends with it. The boy-sailor of eighteen had heard the same tune in the China seas. Throughout all his voyages, the engines' music stayed the same ("I even used canons like Frère Jacques to express the ships' engines or the rhythms of eternity"), but, sometimes, the lyrics suffered a sea-change:

. . . sonnez lamentina
dong dong dong
doom doom doom

Himself or transformed, in withdrawals and returns, Lowry swung between his own Heaven and Hell, leaving little space between his life and his work.

Five other, shorter, stories make up the rest of *Hear Us O Lord from Heaven Thy Dwelling Place*. "Gin and Goldenrod" and "The Bravest Boat" are lyrical and personal. "Strange Comfort Afforded by the Profession," "Elephant and Colosseum," and "Present Estate of Pompeii" deal with other selves, with writers abroad, with the real-and-imagined-pasts that made up the multi-leveled existence of Malcolm Lowry and his heroes.

Health and the Profit System

by Edward T. Chase

It is my contention that American medicine's problems cannot be explained except as a reflection of the tension arising from the testing of two ways of organizing social institutions, our way and the Soviet way. (This is not to say there *are* only two ways in today's pluralistic world; it is simply to record that the tension centers on this particular Cold War polarity.) A key question in this testing is the efficacy of the profit system. It is by no means the only or even the most important question. But it is an increasingly insistent and all too often an awkward question for Americans. For we find the profit incentive does not work at all or serves us ill in such crucial areas as urban renewal, education, mass transportation, or medical care.

Doctors, Patients, and Health Insurance
by Herman M. Somers and Anne R. Somers
(Brookings Institution; $7.50)

By a curious coincidence the learned profession of medicine happens to be organized around the profit system in a singularly uninhibited fashion. The doctor functions generally as a small independent *business*, doing and being paid for piece work. Nor is any attempt made to evade or understate this fact. The American Medical Association has been going to great expense to remind us of all this in paid advertisements asserting the indivisible identity of American medicine with the profit system. To many, to perhaps the majority of individual doctors, this is acutely embarrassing.

Now the consequences of this are extending beyond the profession. With medical care nowadays accepted as a social right not unlike food or shelter, it becomes a matter of moment just how effectively such care is distributed by a society. Grave doubt is cast upon the beneficence of this dynamic upon which the distributive system is based, the profit motive, if it is found that there are deficiencies in medical care distribution. And deficiencies in medical care distribution are precisely what are being found. The most flagrant instance of this, the inadequacies of medical care for the aged, with their reduced income and increased need for care, has precipitated the current issue that puts organized medicine in conflict as never before in our history with the nation's top political leadership and the majority of the public. The self-seeking, anachronistic pronouncements of the profession's spokesmen present the "American way" in a devastatingly unappealing light to the rest of the world. Our most highly trained, affluent professionals, their stature further fortified by the distinction of serving us in the most intimate questions of life and death, are depicted as dedicated *not* to perfecting a way of organizing so as best to meet community needs but to preserving their place in the market system by shaping medical care as nearly as possible along the lines of a conventional commercial transaction.

The medical leadership has actually persuaded itself that the only way to save the free world is to worship the market system as an end in itself, to ignore the conflicts between special interest and community interest, to ignore the true differences between a business and a profession and, above all, to resist the logic of reforms necessitated by the technological revolutions in medicine.

If this sounds too foolish for belief, ponder the lessons of this immensely impressive study by Herman and Anne Somers. Never did a documented analysis come at a more fitting moment. What this comprehensive work does is to scrutinize America's varied practices in personal medical care (public health programs are omitted) in every area. Those familiar with the field will recognize that the Somers have analyzed every program of interest and have reviewed all the literature with relentless perseverance. It is a triumph of systematic scholarship.

One gains a sense of enormous flux. From the evolution of the hospital into

Summer Schedule

During the summer months, *The New Republic* will not appear on the following dates:

July 17 July 31
August 14 August 28

Weekly publication will be resumed with the issue dated September 4.

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a community health center to the movement for generic as opposed to brand labelling of drugs, we see the institutions of medicine being shaped by the public interest – the public's demand for ever better care tendered ever more efficiently and economically. One is struck by the parallel with the development of the British National Health Service. As so astutely described by Harvard professor Harry Eckstein in his study, the British system emerged not as a result of ideological passion, but in response to a need to rationalize a moribund, chaotic situation.

This isn't to say the United States will have such a system in the foreseeable future. We won't. Our social traditions, our geography, our political arrangements and our highly developed and quite idiosyncratic regional systems of care preclude this. But we will see, and soon, the substantial realization of all of the Somers' recommendations. We will see this for the reason noted, irreversible public pressure as in post-war England to make sense of the system so as to control intolerable costs and intolerable organizational impediments to first rate care.

We will see federal subsidization of medical education. "All objective studies have reached the inescapable conclusion that, if the necessary funds are to be found, federal assistance will be required," conclude the Somers. This will include new schools, assistance in operating costs and fellowships and loans for students. AMA opposition will gradually fade.

We will see a rapid acceleration in institutionalized practice, that is, group practice, hospital practice and other forms of combined practice, because they "offer the greatest potential for maintaining and improving care." Organized medicine's legal barriers must and will be removed. "There is no socially or medically tenable reason to continue the laws in about half the states that bar prepaid group practice plans unless sponsored by a medical society," the authors note. Indeed they go further. They recommend federal loans for nonprofit organizations to establish group practice plans and outpatient clinics.

We will at last see actual regional planning of health facilities, (scandalously postponed for decades) with nursing homes, rehabilitation centers, convalescent quarters, outpatient clinics and home care service attaining prominent status because it is all too apparent that the current crazy imbalance is exacerbating both costs and the doctor shortage.

Because drugs now take a fifth of the medical dollar and are virtually uncovered by health insurance, prescription by generic name is inevitable. Also hospitals must and soon will be permitted to adopt their own formularies.

As for closing gaps in insurance coverage, especially of the aged, the Somers, like all other disinterested authorities, urge use of the Social Security system. "The only rational fear private insurance can have of government coverage of the aged is that it might later extend the program to additional groups," they write. "This depends on the future success of the private programs. The American people will not discard a system they find satisfactory – especially since so much private insurance is noncontributory while public insurance would be contributory. But if the majority of enrollees become disillusioned with the value of their insurance and frustrated by inability to obtain realistically comprehensive benefits, this could indeed undermine the private movement. Here, too, removal of the unprofitable burden of the poor risks should enhance the private carriers' chance to meet the challenge of adequacy."

Finally the authors grapple with the toughest of current questions, cost controls. They note that while the proportion of personal medical expenditures met through insurance increased threefold between 1948 and 1959, the amount paid for this insurance increased *sixfold*. "If the price of medical care continues to rise at its current rate – about 4 percent a year and over three times as fast as the general price index – then the entire structure of private health insurance, which must absorb these increases or pass them on to the consumer, will be faced by a crisis of revolt."

There are legitimate reasons for the rise but there are also many unjustified price increases – "for example, obsolete forms of hospital administration and lack of planning, monopolistic price practices in the drug industry, elastic doctor bills based on the insurance status of the patient."

The upshot of this? Owing to the "unwillingness or inability of the American Medical Association" and its cohorts to take disciplinary measures, "it seems likely that public regulation will emerge as the most practical and most acceptable form."

Synopsis

As if such love were more than they could bear
They giggled constantly and made up names,
Pretended to be children, shared their dreams;
Then, finding that they'd dreamt the same nightmare,
Gave up the refuge of their separate homes.

Love held them close; they fed each other then;
Each: mother, father, lover, daughter, son.
An excellent mystery, they thought, and where
They sped like mystics to the heart of prayer
The earth was opened and the sun went in.

Only such love, of course, had many fears.
Coming to life, the fear of death was one.
Thinking on death, the fear of nothing there.
But, least of all, the fear of nothing done;
Love is a matter of consequence. Now read on.

ANTHONY BAILEY

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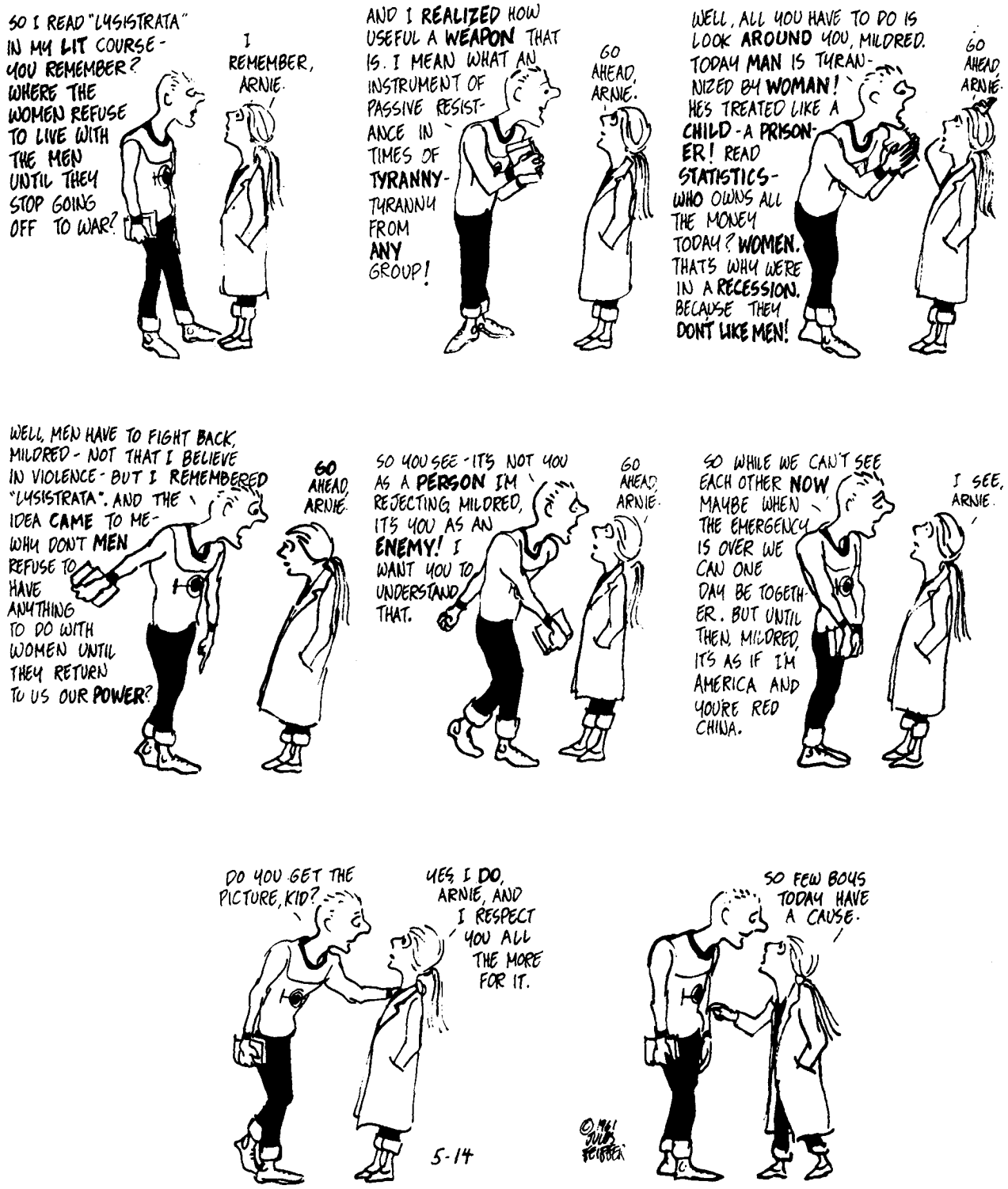
JULES FEIFFER


SO I READ "LYSISTRATA" IN MY LIT COURSE - YOU REMEMBER? WHERE THE WOMEN REFUSE TO LIVE WITH THE MEN UNTIL THEY STOP GOING OFF TO WAR?
I REMEMBER, ARNIE.
AND I REALIZED HOW USEFUL A WEAPON THAT IS. I MEAN WHAT AN INSTRUMENT OF PASSIVE RESISTANCE IN TIMES OF TYRANNY - TYRANNY FROM ANY GROUP!
GO AHEAD, ARNIE.
WELL, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS LOOK AROUND YOU, MILDRED. TODAY MAN IS TYRANNIZED BY WOMAN! HE'S TREATED LIKE A CHILD - A PRISONER! READ STATISTICS - WHO OWNS ALL THE MONEY TODAY? WOMEN. THAT'S WHY WE'RE IN A RECESSION. BECAUSE THEY DON'T LIKE MEN!
GO AHEAD ARNIE.
WELL, MEN HAVE TO FIGHT BACK, MILDRED - NOT THAT I BELIEVE IN VIOLENCE - BUT I REMEMBERED "LYSISTRATA". AND THE IDEA CAME TO ME - WHY DON'T MEN REFUSE TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH WOMEN UNTIL THEY RETURN TO US OUR POWER?
GO AHEAD, ARNIE.
SO YOU SEE - IT'S NOT YOU AS A PERSON I'M REJECTING, MILDRED, IT'S YOU AS AN ENEMY! I WANT YOU TO UNDERSTAND THAT.
GO AHEAD, ARNIE.
SO WHILE WE CAN'T SEE EACH OTHER NOW MAYBE WHEN THE EMERGENCY IS OVER WE CAN ONE DAY BE TOGETHER. BUT UNTIL THEN, MILDRED, IT'S AS IF I'M AMERICA AND YOU'RE RED CHINA.
I SEE, ARNIE.
DO YOU GET THE PICTURE, KID?
YES, I DO, ARNIE, AND I RESPECT YOU ALL THE MORE FOR IT.
5-14
SO FEW BOYS TODAY HAVE A CAUSE.
©'61 JULES FEIFFER

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MOVIES

New York and New Zealand

The Young Savages (United Artists)
Two Loves (M-G-M)

Like so many of Burt Lancaster's films, his latest one essays a serious subject and treats it unsatisfactorily. *The Young Savages* is about inter-racial juvenile gang warfare in New York, thus is a microcosm of juvenile and racial afflictions through the country, if not the world. It starts bravely and bluntly, of course. (If Hollywood films on controversial subjects began with the sense of compromise with which they conclude, no one would sit through them.) But mixed in with some useful plain-speaking are a sentimental plot, an itch for sensation as such, and a manipulated ending.

Based on a book by the Burt Lancaster of novelists, Evan Hunter, this is essentially an old-fashioned movie-type movie: a boy from the slums becomes an assistant DA and marries "quality"; then he faces a moral and career decision when, in a murder case, he has to prosecute a trio of teen-agers, one of whom is the son of a former slum sweetheart (Shelley Winters). You might not imagine that out of this could come a happy ending. Well, all three boys are accused of knifing a blind Puerto Rican youth, but the sweetheart's son only *pretended* to stab him; at the last moment he couldn't really do it. It seems that blood (Miss Winters', anyway) will tell.

As for the merely sensational, why does Lancaster insist on revealing in court that the victim's sister was a prostitute? What remote bearing does it have on the issues?

The coating of this soft-centered offering is in many places bitter indeed. The harsh street photography, the teeming homes of the Puerto Ricans, the subway savagery, the white-tan hatred are scarifying. (Tan-black hatred is not mentioned.) Still, for a film that makes a muchness of its verism, there are some careless lapses in detail. Lancaster strides briskly up the steps of a civil courthouse (the State Supreme Court in Foley Square, Manhattan) to appear in a criminal trial; and the breaches of trial practice in the courtroom are enough to make a case-hardened juryman like myself ache to rap for order.

John Frankenheimer, an alumnus of "mature" TV, has directed with all the by-now conventional apparatus of the unconventional naturalistic film. Fierce action starts before the credits, no make-up is used on male actors, plenty of these actors are markedly unhandsome (just like life, by gad) and are encouraged to sweat, and many snappy techniques of camera technique and cutting are used with security, although without distinction. Frankenheimer is much less secure with actors, particularly with Vivian Nathan, as the victim's mother, who is permitted to plant her feet solidly (on the church steps after her son's funeral) and do her emotional stuff in what sounds like an audition for the Actors Studio.

Shelley Winters, as the former sweetheart, shows again her genuinely moving ability to make tawdry anything she touches. If she chooses, Miss Winters can convince you that the air in any room she is in is stale but somehow endurable because she is in it. Lancaster is, as ever, lumpishly earnest; at least we are spared his Elmer Gantry energy. Edward Andrews, as his boss, is a practised one-joke buffoon. The teen-agers have been coached into facile performances – snarling defiance, and so on – of the kind that can be found in any high-school production of a gangster play.

Those who believe that a semi-spurious statement of truth is better than none will welcome this picture.

Two Loves is a minor film but a major disgrace. Here the original material was a beautiful novel, *Spinster* by Sylvia Ashton-Warner, a story of a loving, loved, secretly frightened New Zealand schoolteacher, most of whose pupils are Maori children, and of her experiences with men. It is a novel whose readers tell others about it as if they were sharing a privilege.

This repellently Technicolored version distorts, falsifies, dulls, and vitiates the original, cramming as much of it as possible into worn stereotypes of dialogue and encounter. *Spinster* might have made a picture of the fine temper of *South Riding*, which was also about a schoolteacher, a young and an older man. (Does anyone remember the 1938 English film of Winifred Holtby's novel with Edna Best, John Clements, and Ralph Richardson?) Instead it stands maimed and shamed.

Laurence Harvey, whose career has been misguided since *Room at the Top* and *Expresso Bongo*, runs quite off the rails as a lonely young egotist. Jack Hawkins works hard to keep things in balance in a watery reprise of the school head he played in *Mandy* (a film also known as *Crash of Silence*). Shirley MacLaine substantiates that once she wanders past the limits of colloquial, snub-nosed, wide-grin comedy – in short, once she goes beyond merely being Shirley MacLaine – she is embarrassingly lost. She is not an actress, she is a personality.

Films like this one are doubly stupid. It would be possible to understand, without necessarily approving, why a studio would buy a good book and tamper with it in order to make a slick popular film. But to tamper with it so as to make a generally incredible, occasionally ludicrous bore is not even smart first-class vandalism. Charles Walters, the director, Ben Maddow, the screenwriter, and especially Julian Blaustein, the producer, are not only bad craftsmen but commercial dunderheads.

STANLEY KAUFFMANN

"A MAIN THEME *of the Liberals is that Latin American Communism flourishes under right-wing dictatorship, but withers when the so-called Democratic Left is in the saddle. This might be a good reason for American support of the 'Democratic Left' if it were a law of history. However, it isn't. Communism is stronger in Romulo Betancourt's Venezuela than it was under his tyrannical predecessor. It is far more powerful in contemporary Brazil than it was under the Vargas dictatorship.*"

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ART

From American Painting's Dark Ages

Offhand I can't think of a painter whose work I have more despised than George de Forest Brush, an American whose long life spanned 40 years after and more than 40 before the turn of the century and whose paintings, for me, spanned only the narrow space between sentimental slop and sloppy sentimentalism. He painted Maternity, Virginity and Sorority and he painted them with devotion, patience and considerable, obvious skill. It was all lost on me for years and no doubt a good part of it still is, but I saw a painting of his the other day and was astounded, in the words of Mark Twain, at how much the old man had learned about art since last I looked.

American Painting 1865-1905
(Whitney Museum, New York)

The painting in question is called "Family Group" and is from the Art Institute of Chicago. Dated 1907, the picture shows a young mother reading to her young daughter while a young man leans over the back of the chair gravely absorbed in the operation. Just this kind of thing used to get me hopping mad at the painter's deliberate play for non-artistic responses; the other day, on the contrary, I found myself admiring the marvelously graceful pattern of curved lines formed by the arms and clothes of the three people, by their heads, by the chair. At the same time I could not escape the fact that this linear structure was intimately bound up with both the anecdotal scene and the human response the painter was aiming at.

This re-examination of an old painter and an old prejudice was no accident. It was, I believe, one of the deliberate effects desired by Lloyd Goodrich in assembling the show in which the Brush appears. "American Painting, 1865-1905" has just returned from a Canadian tour initiated by the Art Gallery of Toronto and will be at the Whitney, in New York, through June 18. The 40 years under examination have not been exactly forgotten, but they have been regarded as a kind of Dark Ages between the bland sunlight of the Hudson River School and the assorted fireworks of the Eight and the Armory Show; from the overall darkness there has emerged, rather like the scholars of the Carolingian court, isolated individuals of great talent and even genius, notably Thomas Eakins, Winslow Homer, and Albert Ryder.

The show explodes this notion with great ease and reveals the big three of the period to be very much of their time. The effect of this identification is not in the least to lessen the impact of the first rate pictures in the show by the three top men; rather it is to bring out into the open many of the lesser lights of the period. Brush is one; there are others.

Another effect of the show is to cause a general reexamination of some of our most treasured maxims of painting. For many years we have all agreed that painting can't be literature – for some reason often drawing from this the corollary that it ought to be music, instead. High up among the literary things we've agreed to hate is the anecdotal, a word that immediately conjures up those dreary French paintings of monks lifting a few in the monastery cellars. Maybe our rejection of anecdote as such has been hasty. Maybe it depends on the anecdote, maybe it depends on the way it is told.

At any rate three of the strongest paintings in the show are unabashedly anecdotal. Homer's "The Wreck" could even be described as melodramatic with its high backlighting of the group on the top of the dune, the struggle of the middle group with the lifeboat on iron wheels, the urgency of the foreground figure waving for help. But the painting misses melodrama and it does so, among other reasons, because Homer was completely imbued with the drama and impending disaster of the scene. These qualities really do have as much to do with the picture as the bulk of the dunes, the disposition of the figures, the rain-swept light of land and sky.

Again, Homer's celebrated "Snap the Whip" is anecdotal if anything ever was. The golden light proclaims a unity between the boys at play and the American forest behind them as close as that of any Chinese philosopher with the mountain he contemplates.

The anecdote becomes sentimental in "The Pathetic Song" of Eakins. The well known Corcoran Gallery picture poses the singer, rapt, between a pensive pianist and a bearded 'cellist. Obviously an anecdote is going on here: the lady is singing, the other two are playing, all three are lost in meditation on the music. We, confronted with Eakins, are equally lost in meditation on

NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

J. M. Edelstein *lives and works in Washington, D. C.* Edward T. Chase *is a specialist in the economics of medicine.* Anthony Bailey's *novel,* The Mother Tongue, *was published last fall by the Dial Press.*

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the moment, on the light falling down the silk dress of the singer as contrasted with the dimness surrounding the instrumentalists, on the beauty felt by these very real people. Though the subject is certainly sentiment, the picture is not sentimental and this is so not only because of Eakins' sense of form but also because he is dealing with honest emotion.

Placed once more in the context of their times, the works of these masters act as a bridge for us to the undeniable merits of their lesser contemporaries. Portraits by Gari Melchers, Frank Duveneck, William Morris Hunt and Sargent reveal perception and sensitivity over and beyond what we have been pleased, sometimes, to dismiss as a strong feeling for market values since replaced by other market values.

There is one interesting exception – a reversal, in fact – to this general effect of revealing new life in work thought long dead. The thing works just the other way round with "Afternoon Wind," by Louis Eilshemius. Painted in 1899, the picture has long hung in the Museum of Modern Art and there been cheerfully accepted – by me, at least – as a rather astonishing precursor of Surrealism. The scene is a wooded glade and floating toward you, through the air, are a group of nude girls. Whether this be accepted as the secret life of a nature lover or as Old Mother West Wind and Her Children, it is the last thing one looks for in American art of 1899. In the same building with a good bit of Surrealism, especially, perhaps, Paul Delvaux, the Eilshemius has seemed forward-looking. Surrounded with its contemporaries at the Whitney, the picture seems simply incompetent, the figures totally unrealized, looking like inflated rubber, a reaction you miss at the Modern because you are so enchanted to find an American precursor to anything that come to be valued by later generations.

Yet there is some Surrealist feeling in the show, if Surrealism can be defined as simply the sense of the queerness and melancholy of things. Arthur B. Davies has this in his "Dancing Children," an outdoor scene with far distance seen through gaps in the close up trees against which young girls perform a grave minuet. Thomas Dewing has it in "The Recitation," a seated girl listening to a standing one in a silvery, undefined garden. FRANK GETLEIN

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Correspondence

Our Teacher Shortage

Sirs:

May I offer a comment concerning your note on "The Teacher Shortage" (May 22, 1961)? You make the rather strong implication that the dropout rate for male teachers is a direct reflection of the salary differential between teaching and the other professions. This is only partly true. You *can* make more money as a plumber than you can as a teacher. And I certainly do not want to be misunderstood about that! But speaking as an aged (thirty-four) new high school teacher of history, I have observed the dropout rate in my vicinity with interest and closeness. While it

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would be a mistake to generalize from my experience, I feel it is significant that virtually all of the men I have seen leave the profession have left either as a result of incompetence in the classroom or from an inability to adjust to the rather severe emotional demands that are made. Neither their intelligence nor their academic competence nor their hunger quotient has had any bearing whatsoever on their decision – so far as I know. And nothing could be more absurd than the vision of business and industry representatives prowling the halls of our educational institutions, endeavoring to lure teachers away from their intellectual and moral elysium.

Lyle T. Wolf
Los Angeles, Calif.

Kennedy's Critics

Sirs:

It's time Eric Bentley (Correspondence, May 15) came down from his ivy tower and learned a new word. To him as to many others, "compromise" may be as repugnant as it is to me, but as long as Kennedy has to coax support from the mesalliance of Dixiecrats and idealistic liberals that is the Democratic Party, he will come to know its meaning well, every crummy ramification of it. I don't believe he is guilty of a "nasty attempt to make his critics look like traitors"; taking a more realistic attitude, some of his critics might well feel shame for demanding miracles of a man who never promised anything but leadership and warned us there would be difficult days ahead.

Beth T. Hennings
Richland, Washington

Sirs:

As a foreign journalist who used for many years to look to *The New Republic* for vigorous and critical thought, I was disappointed to find yet another description of the President as a super-efficient IBM-machine which can be fed with and digest any amount of information. The explanation offered by Mr. Frederic W. Collins ("The Mind of John F. Kennedy," May 8) of the Cuban disaster as a "carry-over of pre-ordained alternatives on his desk" sounds like a "voice of The Establishment" and as the very opposite of independent thought and indeed, if I may go so far, any kind of thought.

François Bondy, Editor
Preuves
Paris, France

The Affluent Jailbirds

Sirs:

Surely Mr. Goldstein ("The Crime of Conspiracy," May 15) did not mean "respectable" when he referred to the corporation executives recently involved in price-fixing conspiracies. We may have respected them but certainly we were in error. They were not and are not "worthy of esteem" to quote Mr. Webster on "respectable." Jailbirds and cheats they may be, but not "respectable corporation executives."

One of the principal troubles with our America today is our unwillingness to call a spade a spade, a crook a crook. I constantly am writing or telling friends of the wonders of *The New Republic*, but it hurts to see you give the accolade of respectability to cheats who are as much gangsters as were Lefty Louie and Gyp the Blood.

Frederick D. Powers
Imperial Beach, Calif.

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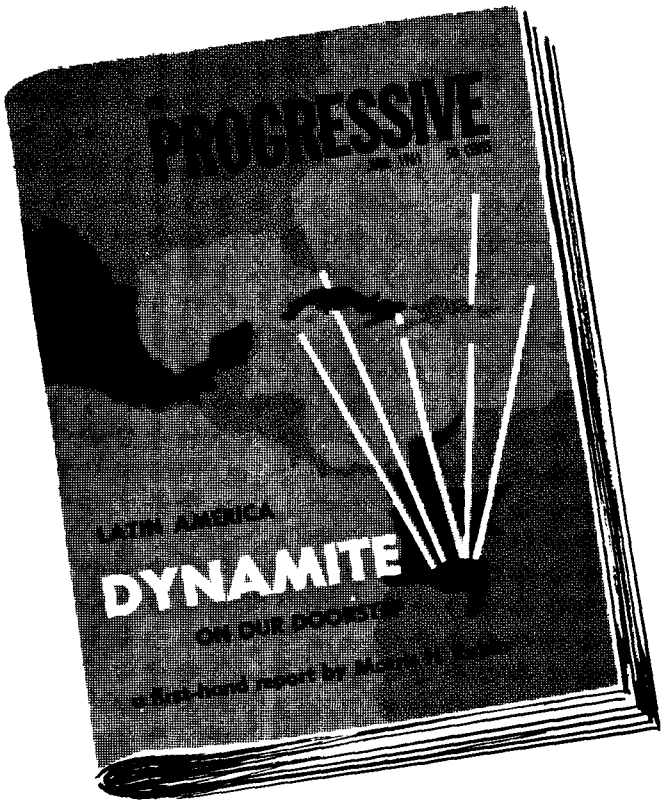

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